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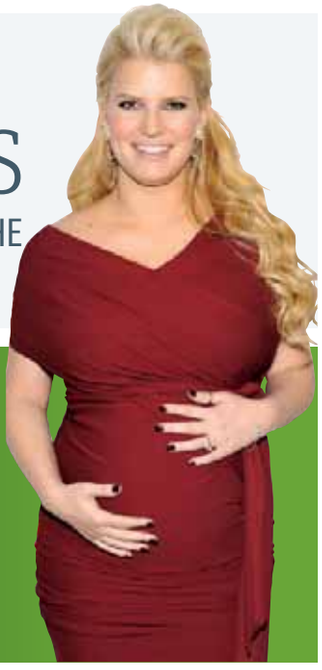
DRESSING THE NEXT GENERATION OF CELEBS

ANOTHER HOLLYWOOD BABY BOOM MEANS PREDICTING THE STYLES OF MINI- JESSICA SIMPSON, AMONG OTHERS PAGE 32



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UFC date in Calgary confirmed

Fight. Tickets for the event will go on sale in the second week of May

The UFC will visit Calgary for the first time on July 21, with shows in Toronto and Montreal planned for later this year.

UFC 149, slated for the Scotiabank Saddledome, will mark the MMA organization's ninth show in Canada and its first in Alberta. More than 200,000 fans attended the first eight events, with more than $40 million in gate receipts.

Featherweight champion Jose Aldo will defend his 145-pound title in Calgary. UFC president Dana White said it was too early to say who his opponent will be but promised it would be a "sick card."

"I am so excited for UFC to come to town," said UFC fan Brenna Bieber.

Bieber's sister will be coming from North Battleford, Sask., to join Bieber and her husband for the show.

"I love the action and I am very excited that Jose Aldo will be defending his title right here in Calgary. It should be a really good fight," said Bieber.

Although Bieber could not attend the press conference Wednesday, she had it streaming online at work.

Alberta has proved to be an MMA-fertile market with Jason (The Athlete) MacDonald, Nick (The Promise) Ring, Nick (The Quiet Assassin) Penner, Ryan (Big Deal) Jimmo and Mitch Clarke among current UFC fighters based there.

Alberta's Tim (The Thrashing Machine) Hague and Victor Valimaki have also fought in the UFC. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/ WITH FILES FROM METRO**

'Fantastic place'

"We think if there's a city that we haven't been to in Canada ... Calgary's a fantastic place to bring the UFC."

Tom Wright, UFC's director of Canadian operations

UFC president Dana White announces at a Calgary news conference on Wednesday that the city will host a UFC event on July 21. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bees making a buzz

Beekeeper asks the community to be on the lookout for missing honeybees. PAGE 3

Celebrating new citizens

Students and police take part in commemorating the citizenship of dozens of new Canadians PAGE 6

A story worth listening to

Holocaust survivor teaches local students the perils of bullying and hate through her story PAGE 8

Senators jump on Kony 2012

A bipartisan resolution is introduced by 34 U.S. senators condemning Joseph Kony and the LRA PAGE 9

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Killing

First-degree murder conviction in Temple youth's shooting

The man accused in the 2007 shooting death of Adam Cavanagh was found guilty of first-degree murder in a Calgary courtroom on Wednesday.

The man, now 22, cannot be named because he was a 17-year-old youth at the time of the crime.

However, the Crown prosecutor will reportedly seek an adult sentence.

Cavanagh, 18, was shot in the head through an open window in his parents' basement in Temple more than five years ago.

METRO

Home invasion

Two suspects sought in McKenzie Lake assault, robbery

A woman was assaulted and robbed at her McKenzie Lake home on March 17 after returning from having jewelry appraised, police say.

Two men entered her garage, struck the woman and fled with the case containing the jewelry in a gold or beige minivan.

One suspect is described as possibly being of East Indian descent approximately five-foot-six, aged about 30 with a sparse beard and short, black, spiky hair.

The other suspect is described as black, 23 to 25 years old, six-foot-two with a thin build.

METRO

Sharon Woodhouse and her son Joel Woodhouse, both urban beekeepers, are hunting for part of their honey bee colony. CANDACE WARD/FOR METRO

Missing bees the buzz of Sunalta

Where are they? Local beekeeper wants the community to help solve the mystery of a flyaway colony

There's a lot of buzz in the downtown community of Sunalta surrounding a colony of bees that may be missing.

Urban beekeeper Sharon Woodhouse said for the last two years, her yard has been home to a colony of honey bees.

Her intention has been to strengthen the honey bee population.

"There's been talk of the bee population declining and how important they are to our food sources and I just thought it was a really great thing to do," she said.

Late last summer, Woodhouse said she noticed the bee population was declining from the estimated 30,000 she believes were once in the hive.

Assuming part of the colony split because the hive was crowded, Woodhouse said she didn't think much of it until recently with the beginning of spring now here.

"My biggest fear was if somebody found the bees, say if they had flown into a garage or if they were in a nook underneath the roof and started to build a home, that people would see it and get scared," she said.

Knowing honey bees usually have a five-kilometre radius, Woodhouse sent a note to her neighbours in Sunalta through the community association and hopes if her colony is found she can pick them up rather than have someone exterminate them.

"I'm hoping around April they'll start to get a little bit more active as it warms up," she said.

"Honeybees are not hunters, they're pollen gatherers.... They're absolute marvels of nature and I didn't want people to be frightened."

KATIE TURNER/METRO

Honeybee hotline

Urban beekeeper Sharon Woodhouse is asking anyone who may see honeybee activity in Sunalta to email swoodhouse@telus.net.

- **Sweet stuff.** Woodhouse estimates that around 100 lb of honey was generated from the single hive in her yeard last year.
- **Home, sweet home.** Honey bee hives are made of wax, while wasps' nests are made primarily from paper pulp.

1 NEWS

Mobile news

A recent study reveals Canadians are more willing than Americans to sift through promotional emails in exchange for cut-rate deals. Scan the code for the story.

On the web

Ramsay skewers ex-resto

Celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay served his former Montreal restaurant with a $2.7-million dollar lawsuit Wednesday. For more about the chef known not only for his delicacies, but also for his feisty demeanour, go to metronews.ca/video

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Cambridge House INTERNATIONAL

A shave for a brave friend

Tribute. Young student plans to shave her head to remember a classmate who succumbed to cancer

KATIE TURNER
katie.turner@metronews.ca

Nearly two years after the death of a former classmate, a Grade 5 student is making a sacrifice to ensure her friend's memory lives on.

Sawyer Versluys, 10, said she doesn't remember a time when her friend Nicolle Zaslavsky wasn't smiling.

In the summer of 2010, Nicolle died of brain cancer at the age of 8. She had been battling the disease since 2007.

"I've always been thinking about Nicolle," Sawyer said. "I thought that I could be helping people that are like her."

On April 16 — Sawyer's 11th birthday — she will shave her long tresses in memory of Nicolle.

Nicolle's father, Greg Zaslavsky, said he and his wife were touched when they found out about Sawyer's plans.

"I obviously feel proud of Sawyer," he said.

Zaslavsky said even after multiple surgeries and, ultimately, the removal of half her brain, his young daughter continued to fight. Even after death, he's amazed that Nicolle continues to be an inspiration.

"I was really proud of Nicolle that she's impacting people after her passing," he said. "My thought was, had (Sawyer) never met Nicolle, would she be doing this? Is she going to be a better person for the rest of her life because she met Nicolle?"

Sawyer said Nicolle's courage is what she remembers most.

"She was just really brave with what she was going through," she said, adding she'll be thinking of her friend as her locks are sheared off.

You can help

- **Charity shave.** Sawyer Versluys has raised nearly $2,000 for Kids Cancer Care.
- **Donations.** Can be made at kidscancercare.ab.ca.
- **April 16.** Sawyer's head shave will take place at 9 a.m. on April 16 at Diva Salon Spa in Chinook Centre.

Sawyer Versluys, 10, is cutting off all of her hair on April 16 to honour a former classmate who died of brain cancer. CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

Rosining the bow for Kelly Ripa and company

The Calgary Fiddlers are heading to Banff to perform on Live! with Kelly when the show tapes there next month. CONTRIBUTED

A few young fiddlers are tuning up their instruments to get ready for the millions who will be tuning in when they perform on national television.

The Calgary Fiddlers will play on Live! with Kelly when the show tapes next month in Banff.

The group is made up of 15 fiddlers, all between the ages of 14 and 18.

"I'm just so excited about it. Lots of times when I come home I watch Kelly Ripa's show," said Renna Traboulsi, 16, of the Calgary Fiddlers.

The teens will be taping their segment on April 1, and the show will air between April 2 and 5.

Big break

"This is really a huge deal for us."
Fiddler Brett Rowan

Nolana Baillargeon, the group's artistic director, said she is excited by the exposure for the Calgary Fiddlers.

"This is the biggest promotional thing that we have done, especially with 3.5 million people watching us," she said.

Brett Rowan, 16, has been a member of the Calgary Fiddlers for two years and is the public-relations representative for the group.

"We were contacted through an agent at the New York production company and they asked us if we want to represent Calgary and area. This is really a huge deal for us," he said.

Nicole Evans, 17, is one of the senior members in the group. This is her fourth and final year with the Fiddlers.

"It's really exciting to have an opportunity like this in my final year with the group," she said.

The Calgary Fiddlers' next performance, titled Sweet on Fiddlin', is on April 23 at the Jubilations Dinner Theatre in Calgary.

For more information, go to calgaryfiddlers.com.

MEGAN MAHONEY/FOR METRO

Fiddling facts

- **Three decades.** The Calgary Fiddlers have been established for 30 years.
- **100 shows.** They perform approximately 100 shows a year and are a non-profit organization.

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The Calgary Police Service joined with the Calgary Board of Education to support some of Calgary's newest Canadian citizens at Forest Lawn Senior High School Wednesday. MEGAN MAHONEY/FOR METRO

Police help welcome new Canadians at ceremony

Citizenship ceremony. Students and police take part in celebrating the citizenship of dozens of new Canadians

MEGAN MAHONEY
calgary@metronews.ca

New Canadians and members of the Calgary Police Service joined forces yesterday to celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Discrimination.

Members of the Calgary Police Service honoured more than 100 new Canadian citizens who received their citizenship certificates during a ceremony at Forest Lawn Senior High School.

The Calgary Police Service partnered with the Calgary Board of Education for the ceremony.

"What we strive to do is to be involved in the community, and for these people getting their citizenship, it is, of course, a very important day for them," said Sgt. Bill Dodd of the CPS.

"I think it's important for us as a police service to celebrate these kinds of milestones with people."

Show of support

"I'm here to support them and to be proud that I am a Canadian and that other people want to join our wonderful country."

Louise Fernandes
At the ceremony to support her friends who were receiving their citizenship

Louise Fernandes was present at the ceremony to support her friends who were receiving their citizenship.

"I'm here to support them and to be proud that I am a Canadian and that other people want to join our wonderful country," she said.

Const. Garry Woods, a member of the Diversity Resource Unit, said the goal is to support diversity in the community.

"Our job is to liaise with all sectors of our community, regardless of what part of the world they come from. We want to promote diversity and show Calgarians that we are here for them and that we're not just here to give out tickets," said Woods.

Environment.

Green carts collect big haul in first week of community pilot program

St. Patrick's Day is long over, but Calgary is still overflowing with green pride in regards to the green-cart pilot program currently taking place in four communities.

In the first week of the green-cart pilot from March 5 to 12, the 7,500 Calgary homes in the communities of Brentwood, Abbeydale, Cougar Ridge and Southwood collectively produced 12,000 kilograms of organic waste.

Lindsay Lofthouse, a waste-diversion specialist with the city, is optimistic about the pilot program.

"It's off to a good start," she said.

The pilot program is running from March 2012 to March 2013 in an effort to reduce landfill waste by 80 per cent.

After the pilot project is complete, city council will use feedback provided by the green-cart participants to determine whether the program should be implemented citywide.

"If that's what Calgary wants, it will be city council that will be the deciding factor," said Lofthouse.

If approved by council, a citywide program could be implemented between 2015 and 2017, with the city likely to develop a new facility to handle the waste.

ERIC FRASER/FOR METRO

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Agreement. Alberta government, physicians reach tentative deal

The group that represents Alberta physicians has reached a tentative pay deal with the province after a year's worth of talks and only days before an anticipated provincial election call.

"The timing is what it is," Linda Slocombe, president of the Alberta Medical Association, said Wednesday. "We need an agreement. We want to move forward and this is a first step in that."

But Alberta Liberal health critic David Swann — himself a medical doctor — said the agreement in principle was an attempt to placate angry physicians before politicians go to the polls.

"Everybody's happy when people are talking and solving problems, but this is clearly a desperate attempt before an election to solve problems that this government created."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Increased

- The proposed agreement would give doctors a 2.5 per cent increase to physician fees this year and another 2.5 per cent retroactive to April 2011.
- The added cost to taxpayers is $181 million.

Election

Hughes to run in 2013

Activist Paul Hughes has declared his intention to run against Ward 7 Ald. Druh Farrell. Hughes is best known for his fight against city hall to keep his backyard chickens. METRO

Autopsy

Balzac death not a homicide: RCMP

RCMP completed an autopsy on a body that was discovered near Cross Iron Mall on Tuesday. The cause of death is not believed to be a homicide. METRO

Anti-bullying message hits home at Calgary school

Students at Georges P. Vanier School listened to an anti-bullying message Wednesday delivered by Holocaust survivor Eva Olsson. ERIC FRASER/FOR METRO

Looking back. Holocaust survivor teaches students the perils of bullying and hate through her own story

ERIC FRASER
calgary@metronews.ca

Georges P. Vanier School welcomed 87-year-old Holocaust survivor Eva Olsson and her message of peace for combating bullying in the school yard.

Approximately 170 students, parents and staff filled the northeast school's gym to hear Olsson draw parallels between the struggles of being Jewish and others confined in Nazi concentration camps to being bullied in present-day schools.

Her message was one of tolerance — the same message that she has been communicating to those who will listen for the last 12 years.

"I don't like it when I'm pushed around," Olsson said. "But I don't hate."

Olsson, who was only one of two survivors from her extended family of 89 members, detailed her time in the concentration camps, pushing through the tears as she delivered her message to the children.

"Not white or black or Asian or Muslim or Hindu, one people, one family," Olsson said.

Grade 9 student Jamie said she was moved by Olsson's message as she has been the victim of bullying.

"I get made fun of a lot and bullied and I agree with her," she said. "Hate is a strong word and shouldn't be taken for granted."

Quoted

"Hate is a strong word and shouldn't be taken for granted."

Jamie, Grade 9 student

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Kony 2012 director diagnosed with brief psychosis, says spouse

In recovery. Jason Russell's wife says his breakdown due to 'shock' after video gets 84 million hits

The director of a wildly popular video about brutal African warlord Joseph Kony has been diagnosed with a mental condition triggered by trauma or stress and is expected to stay in the hospital for weeks, his wife said Wednesday.

Jason Russell, 33, director of the Kony 2012 video that has so far been viewed more than 84 million times on YouTube, was hospitalized last week in California after witnesses saw him running through streets in his underwear, screaming incoherently and banging his fists on the pavement.

Russell was given a preliminary diagnosis of brief reactive psychosis.

"Doctors say this is a common experience given the great mental, emotional and physical shock his body has gone through in these last two weeks. Even for us, it's hard to understand the sudden transition from relative anonymity to worldwide attention — both raves and ridicules, in a matter of days," wife Danica Russell said in a statement.

Brief reactive psychosis is triggered by trauma or major stress such as an accident or the death of a loved one. Other stressors can include sleep deprivation or dehydration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jason Russell speaks at an Invisible Children event. He was hospitalized in California after witnesses saw him behaving strangely. KRIS CONNOR/GETTY IMAGES

Analysis

Kony's crimes condemned

A bipartisan group of 34 U.S. senators introduced a resolution Wednesday condemning Joseph Kony and his ruthless guerrilla group for a 26-year campaign of terror in central Africa that has been marked by child abductions and widespread killings.

The measure backs the effort of Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Central African Republic and South Sudan to stop Kony and his Lord's Resistance Army. Sen. Chris Coons said Kony represents the "worst of mankind."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mauritania

African nation denies extradition

A high-ranking government official from Mauritania is denying that the country agreed to hand over one of Moammar Gadhafi's ex-intelligence chiefs for trial in Libya.

His comment comes after Libya's spokesman said that Mauritania was planning to extradite Abdullah al-Senoussi back to Libya.

The official, who requested anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the discussion, said by telephone that "Mauritania had given no assurances whatsoever to Libya regarding handing over al-Senoussi."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

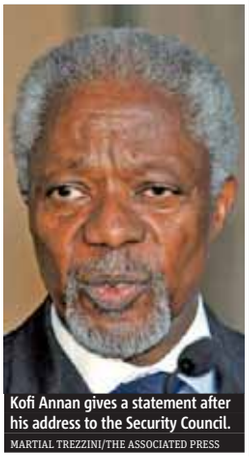
UN. Security Council calls for ceasefire in Syria

UN Security Council diplomats said Wednesday they have agreed on a council statement backing envoy Kofi Annan's efforts to end the yearlong bloodshed in Syria.

The non-binding statement calls for a ceasefire in Syria and opening conflict areas to humanitarian aid. The governments of the 15 council nations had been given until Wednesday to raise any objections to the text of the statement. Diplomats said none had done so.

In a bid to win support from Russia and China, France watered down its proposed Security Council statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Kofi Annan gives a statement after his address to the Security Council. MARTIAL TREZZINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australia. Four rare white rhinos die suddenly of illness

Four rare white rhinoceroses have died in recent weeks at an Australian zoo after displaying mysterious neurological problems such as stumbling.

The Taronga Western Plains Zoo near the New South Wales state city of Dubbo said in a statement Wednesday that it had begun a veterinary investigation to pinpoint the cause of the deaths and is working with rhino specialists in Africa and North America.

The four rhinos — Izizi, Aluka, Intombi and her daughter Amira — began showing signs of neurological problems two weeks ago, an unnamed zoo official told Australian Associated Press.

The first rhino died soon after the symptoms became apparent and the fourth died over the weekend, the official said.

Three other rhinos survived, zoo spokesman Mark Williams said. Williams declined to answer further questions.

The zoo's general manager, Matt Fuller, said bacterial infections, snake venom, toxins and many types of viruses have been ruled out as possible causes.

He said in a statement that no other species at the zoo had been affected by the illness and the surviving rhinos are healthy.

Fuller said results of a microscopic examination of tissue from the rhino carcasses may be available next week, but he added it could take weeks to get results.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quotable

"This has been a huge shock, and we're all very sad."

Matt Fuller, general manager at the Taronga Western Plains Zoo. In response to the death of four white rhinos.

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Standoff with suspected terrorist leads to firefight

French police have been attempting to apprehend a suspect in the shooting at the Ozar Hatorah Jewish school. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French riot police set off explosions outside an apartment building early Thursday in an effort to force the surrender of a gunman who boasted of bringing France "to its knees" with an al-Qaida-linked terror spree that killed seven people.

As the standoff dragged into a second day, hundreds of heavily armed police, some in body armour, cordoned off the five-storey building in Toulouse where the 24-year-old suspect, Mohamed Merah, had been holed up.

Just after midnight, local time, three explosions were heard and orange flashes lit up the night sky near the building. An Interior Ministry official said the suspect had gone back on a previous pledge to turn himself in — and that police blew up the shutters outside the apartment window to pressure him to surrender.

Hours later, two new blasts and a burst of gunfire were heard, though officials said no full-out assault was under way.

Authorities said he told negotiators he killed a rabbi and three young children at a Jewish school on Monday and three French paratroopers last week to avenge the deaths of Palestinian children and to protest the French army's involvement in Afghanistan, as well as a government ban last year on face-covering Islamic veils.

"He has no regrets, except not having more time to kill more people," Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins told a news conference.

Those slain at the Jewish school, all of French-Israeli nationality, were buried in Israel on Wednesday as relatives sobbed inconsolably. The bodies of Rabbi Jonathan Sandler, his sons Arieh, 5, and Gabriel, 3, and eight-year-old Myriam Monsenego had been flown there earlier in the day.

Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad, meanwhile, denounced the shooting at the Jewish school and condemned the link to Palestinian children.

"It's time for criminals to stop using the Palestinian cause to justify their terrorist actions," Fayyad said. "The children of Palestine want nothing but dignified lives for themselves and for all the children."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Family members react Wednesday during the funeral of the victims of Monday's shooting in Toulouse, France. SEBASTIAN SCHEINER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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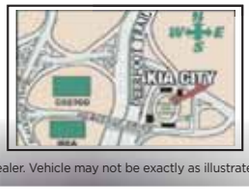

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Mulcair looks to wrap up top NDP job

Politics. Montreal MP seen as front-runner as Saturday's NDP-leadership vote approaches — but uncertainties remain

He hesitated at the starting gate, but after a seven-month marathon Thomas Mulcair is leading the pack as it pounds down the home stretch of the federal NDP leadership race.

The only question is whether he can be nipped at the wire.

Inside bettors suggest probably not. But the NDP's complicated process for selecting a successor to the late Jack Layton makes it difficult to handicap the outcome with any confidence, even at this late stage.

Whether any of his six rivals can beat the Montreal MP to the finish line Saturday depends on a host of unpredictable factors, including how many of the 131,000 eligible New Democrats actually vote, how far ahead Mulcair is on the first ballot, the order in which trailing contenders drop off the ballot and whether their supporters move primarily to one candidate or scatter.

Most difficult to predict are the individual choices tens of thousands of New Democrats are making — in the privacy of their own homes, free of the group-think and the hoopla of Saturday's convention in Toronto — as they mark their ballots.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Advance voting

43K

As of Wednesday morning, 43,000 had voted in advance, online or by mail, ranking their preferences from first through seventh. Assuming a high voter turnout of 70 per cent, that means almost half had voted early, with tens of thousands more ballots expected to pour in until advance voting is cut off at 11 a.m. Friday.

Kickin' back as temperatures surge

International-development student Ariane Michaud enjoys the warm weather as she hangs out at Dalhousie University in Halifax on Wednesday. Canadians from coast to coast are enjoying an unseasonably warm start to spring, with temperatures expected to be as high as 27 C in some parts of the country on Thursday. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO IN HALIFAX

METRO CUSTOM PUBLISHING

SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

El Salvador is a tiny country – less than half the size of Nova Scotia, with a population about the size of the GTA – but it is one of the most dangerous countries in the Western hemisphere. There were 3,985 violent deaths in El Salvador in 2010, most related to gang activity; that is a higher per-capita number than in Afghanistan.

That's why communities place a high priority on giving their young people tools to build a future. "Our preschool centres are critically important," says Laura Mata, chief of communications for World Vision El Salvador, which works with community groups to create programs to address their most pressing needs. "By giving small children a good educational foundation, they're ready for Grade 1. They're then more likely to be successful and less likely to flunk out or quit later."

World Vision's Children's Clubs and Youth Clubs not only provide young people with a safe place to socialize, but also give them life skills and vocational training. (In one club, Kevin, 15 was learning to bake bread and fancy pastries; in another, a band of musicians practiced while another group took learned to paint.)

Carlos, who is now 17, remembers the first time he went to a World Vision Communications Club in Tacuba, a small mountain town near the Guatemalan border where local gangs are particularly powerful. "I was 13. Some of my friends had been to the club and done a radio show, and they needed more people. I went. I was very nervous. But it was such a nice experience my [nervousness] vanished."

Before that, Carlos had been playing hookey from school since age 10, had failed 4th grade and fallen in with a sketchy group. At the club, "I got really involved. I realized I had to stop doing the things I'd been doing. I started studying again." Today he leads other teens in the group and works half-days at a local professional radio station while attending high school.

Of course World Vision Canada sponsorships support efforts like nutrition and health care programs in El Salvador. But Laura believes that is just as important to "improve knowledge. You can't change lives by just giving tangible things," she says. "Change comes by giving life skills and vocational skills so that [young people] can be someone in the future."

At the Tacuba Communications Club, says Carlos, "getting into the radio shows is what changed my life."

DAVID TSIGOULIS

World Vision's Youth Clubs give children a place to have fun and learn, nurturing talents that give them hope for a productive, fulfilling future.

Sombre memorial for bus crash victims

Funeral. Belgium mourns for 28 killed, most of them children

King Albert II and thousands of mourners on Wednesday remembered the 28 victims of last week's bus crash in a Swiss tunnel during a memorial service centring on the 22 schoolchildren whose promise of youth was shattered by sudden death.

Under a sparkling sky, in Lommel, Belgium, soldiers took part in a solemn procession that carried 15 coffins into a 5,000-capacity hall. The brown casket contained the remains of a teacher, the 14 white ones held the bodies of children who were on the cusp of their teenage years.

The students and the teacher were from one of two schools in northern Belgium that shared a bus for a traditional "snow class" vacation in Switzerland. They were returning from that exuberant holiday on March 13 when tragedy struck. Their bus, carrying 52 people, slammed into a tunnel wall. In addition to the dead, 24 children were injured.

The cause of the crash remains under investigation.

A separate service will be held Thursday for the victims from the other school, in the town of Heverlee.

Three girls who were on the trip remain in Switzerland. They were badly injured, but they have regained consciousness and are out of immediate danger. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Loss

"Is there something worse than parents who lose what they love most?"

Peter Vanvelthoven
Mayor of Lommel, Belgium

Mourners watch a memorial service on a video screen outside an arena in Lommel, Belgium, on Wednesday. ERMINDO ARMINO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Somalia kidnapping

Hostage released but learns of husband's death

Somali pirates holding a British woman hostage for six months gave her medicine but did not tell Judith Tebbutt they had killed her husband during an attack on their Kenyan beach resort.

Pirates freed Tebbutt on Wednesday after reportedly being paid a ransom. Gunmen killed her husband, David Tebbutt, during the September kidnapping attack, but Tebbutt did not learn of the death for two more weeks.

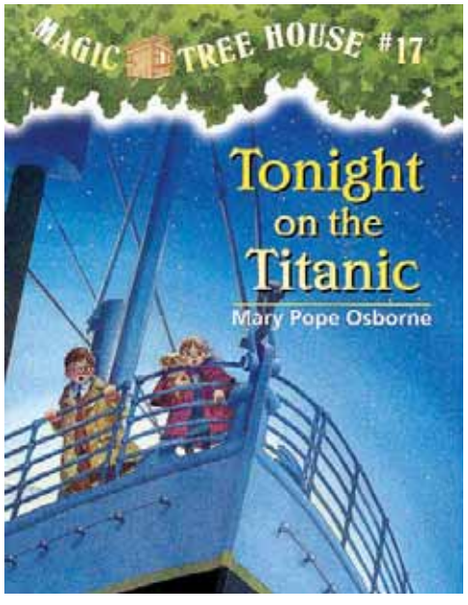
"I just assumed he was alive," Tebbutt said haltingly in a video broadcast by the BBC, adding that her son told her of the killing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Unarmed teen killed

Rights groups demand arrest in shooting

Civil rights leaders in the U.S. pressured authorities to make an arrest in the case of an unarmed black teenager shot to death by a neighbourhood-watch captain after declaring victories in getting federal and state officials to investigate.

The case has become a nationwide sensation and ignited a furor against the police department of the Orlando suburb of Sanford, where 17-year-old Trayvon Martin was shot last month. It has prompted rallies around the state and a protest in Gov. Rick Scott's office Tuesday. U.S. Justice Department has opened a civil rights probe into the shooting.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Titanic tales for kids

In the lead-up to the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, many parents, teachers and writers of children's books are balancing potentially scary details with more inspirational fare focused on survivors. Mary Pope Osborne's children's book, Tonight on the Titanic, is aimed toward 6- to 10-year-olds and features her kid characters Jack and his sister, Annie. CONTRIBUTED/RANDOM HOUSE BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

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Docs say ‘tax us’, and all high-income earners

Doctors for Fair Taxation is calling for higher taxes for doctors and other high-income earners. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Petition. Though launched by doctors, anyone earning over $100,000 who supports the proposal can sign on

A group of doctors is calling on federal and provincial governments to raise income taxes levied on high-income Canadians.

They are launching a campaign to get support for the idea, using the slogan “Tax us. Canada’s worth it.”

Doctors for Fair Taxation are proposing new surtaxes that would tax any income over $100,000. People who earn between $100,000 and $170,000 would pay an extra one per cent on the income between those two figures and income between $170,000 and $640,000 would be subject to an extra two per cent levy.

Income over $640,000 and less than $1.85 million would be hit with an additional three per cent and income over $1.85 million would be subject to an additional surtax of six per cent.

The group estimates that the federal government would earn an extra $3.5 billion a year and Ontario would raise an extra $1.7 billion.

One of the organizers of the campaign, Dr. Michael Rachlis, says more than 50 doctors have signed the petition so far. A website hosting the petition will go live Thursday afternoon.

“Our group considers higher taxes a small price to pay for a more civilized Canada,” says Rachlis, a public health physician and associate professor at the University of Toronto.

“We’re becoming a more economically unequal society and we feel this is bad for our country’s health.”

Rachlis says the aim of the campaign is to get Canadians who would be paying the higher taxes to indicate their willingness, saying it would carry more weight that way.

One signatory is Dr. Irfan Dalla, a Toronto-based physician who is also a member of Canadian Doctors for Medicare. “Governments don’t have the resources they need to address some of the causes of ill-health and some of the social programs that people want and need. And I think that people like me who are paid reasonably well can afford to contribute a little bit more to ensure that we have a fair society,” Dalla says.

Rachlis says action needs to be taken to spare crucial public programs. “We feel that this is a moral argument. We cannot talk about throwing people out of work and cutting needed programs for people.”

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Evidence

Jury in Stafford trial sees McClintic police interview

A police video showing a tearful Terri-Lynne McClintic saying she stood watching, frozen as her boyfriend sexually assaulted and killed eight-year-old Victoria Stafford was shown Wednesday to a jury that’s been told it can now treat it as evidence.

The videotaped interview from May 24, 2009 — days after she and boyfriend Michael Rafferty were charged in the death of the Grade 3 student — provides a very different account of who killed Tori from McClintic’s testimony in court.

In court last week McClintic said all the details about Tori’s death that she had previously described were accurate, except that it was she, not Rafferty, who wielded the hammer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Possible appeal

Crown reviewing Graham James sentence

A spokesperson for Manitoba Justice says the Crown is reviewing the prison sentence handed to disgraced junior hockey coach Graham James for sexual abuse.

The Crown has 30 days to decide whether to appeal.

James was sentenced Tuesday for repeated sexual assaults on retired NHL star Theo Fleury and his cousin, Todd Holt, when the two played junior hockey for James in the 1980s and ‘90s.

The sentence sparked immediate outrage across the country from people who suggested it is too lenient.

James could be eligible for day parole in September and full parole in November. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police raids

Que. firefighters arrested on pot, contraband charges

It’s alleged that in one small Quebec town firefighters didn’t just put out flames — they also helped many, many people light up.

Four firefighters have been arrested in a broader crackdown against marijuana and contraband cigarettes in Quebec, following a series of raids Wednesday that even saw a municipal fire hall targeted.

The town mayor says they were excellent firemen. Provincial police say they were even more prolific sellers of pot and illegal smokes.

The four volunteer firefighters were among 23 people arrested in police raids that took place in a number of Quebec towns.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

BREAKING NEWS

U.S. REAL ESTATE HAS BOTTOMED OUT!

7 Deadliest Mistakes All Canadians Make When Buying U.S. Real Estate

Fellow Canadians - a new video series has just recently been released which reveals the 7 costly mistakes that ALL Canadians make when buying U.S. real estate, and a 23 step system that can help you prevent these common mistakes in order to protect your investment.

This video series clearly shows how a typical Canadian loses an average of $30,000 when buying U.S. real estate. The fact of the matter is that the U.S. is a foreign country with an entirely different tax system that the CRA frowns upon – worse yet – with regulations written against foreigners, such as the famous “world estate tax”.

Don’t dare google “U.S. Real Estate” until you watch and learn the proven methods.

This video series exposes the 7 deadliest mistakes that cost Canadians tens of thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes are entirely preventable. In answer to these issues, Canada’s only active U.S. real estate expert - Steve Martel - has prepared a free video series entitled "Buying U.S. Real Estate The Proven Way".

To gain instant access to this video series, visit www.CanadiansInvade.info

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Union warns against cuts

Budget. Labour leaders say cutbacks could affect public safety

The country could see seniors left in the cold, fisherman stranded on cliffs and unsafe food getting to stores if the Conservative government proceeds with billions in spending cuts, public servants warned Wednesday.

The Public Service Alliance of Canada wants the government to put further cuts on hold until it reviews the social and economic impact of those already underway.

Though thousands of civil servants could face layoffs after next week's federal budget, they said their worry isn't about saving their own jobs.

"It's about public safety," said Merv Wiseman, a 35-year veteran of the Canadian Coast Guard.

Rescue

"Surely, our government can afford to keep a marine rescue centre in St. John's."

Inuit hunter Todd Broomfield, who was rescued off the Labrador coast last year

The Conservatives aim to slash between $4 and $8 billion a year in government spending to erase the deficit by 2015-2016. The last budget called for expenditures of just over $270 billion with a deficit of about $33 billion.

While the focus is on cutting program spending, jobs connected to those programs will disappear and one estimate has said as many as 60,000 positions could be at risk.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Spectator to protester

Nassina Ali of Brooklyn became an activist associated with the Occupy Wall Street movement after the police smashed her laptop while she was a spectator during a rally in Union Square in New York. MARY ALTAFFER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Murder charges laid. Police get break in Toronto cold case

Just one phone call was the break investigators desperately needed in the case of a girl's body found in a burning suitcase in 1994, resulting in first-degree murder charges against the victim's father and stepmother nearly two decades later.

Until that call from a "person with a conscience," even the girl's identity eluded police. They had little to go on after a patrol officer came upon the suitcase, surrounded by tires and set on fire in an industrial area north of Toronto, on Sept. 1, 1994.

The remains of the young woman were so badly charred that the case went cold for nearly two decades.

The telephone tip led to a visit to the girl's biological mother in Kingston, Jamaica, where cold-case investigators obtained the DNA sample used to identify the human remains as those of 17-year-old Melonie Biddersingh.

Victim Melonie Biddersingh
TORONTO POLICE HANDOUT

Everton, 56, and Elaine Biddersingh, 50, of Welland, Ont. have been charged with first-degree murder.

THE CANADIN PRESS

Health concerns

Brazil suspends importing of breast implants

Brazil has temporarily suspended the importation of all silicone breast implants.

The National Agency for Sanitary Vigilance says the ban will be in place until new quality standards are defined. Health concerns emerged last year due to faulty implants sold by the now-defunct French company Poly Implant Prothese and Dutch company Rofil Medical Nederland. The implants were made with cheap, industrial-grade silicone instead of medical-grade gel. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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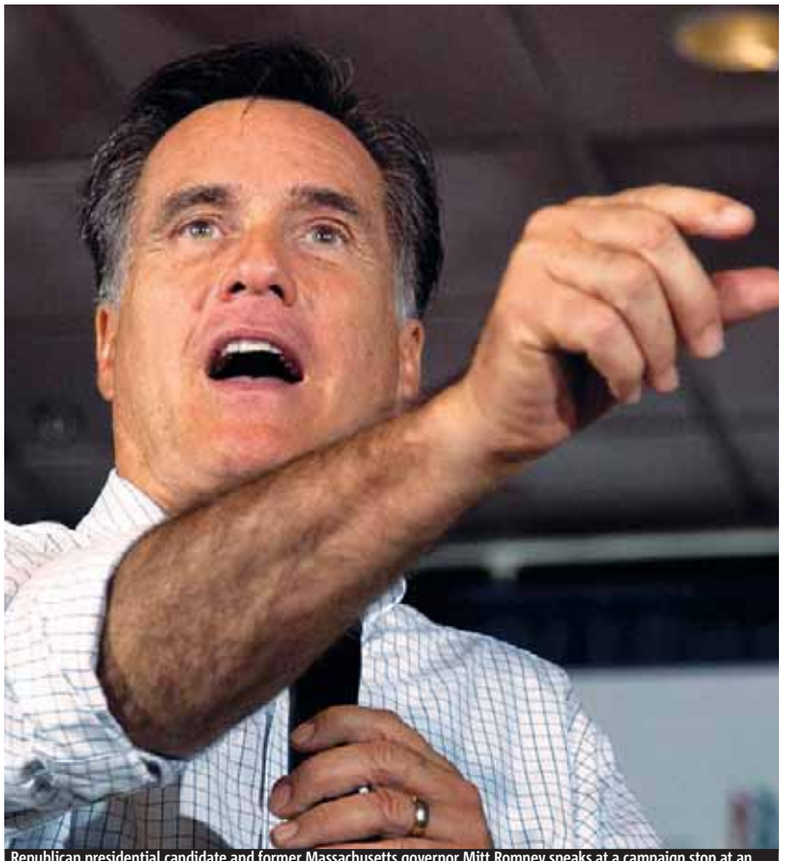

Republican presidential candidate and former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney speaks at a campaign stop at an American Legion post in Arbutus, Md., on Wednesday. STEVEN SENNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Romney rallies in Illinois en route to Louisiana primary

Campaign trail. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney racks up delegates with hope of securing 2012 nomination

Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney coasted to victory in Illinois on Tuesday, crushing the seemingly indomitable Rick Santorum in a state where primary voters tend to be more moderate than in the southern states where the social conservative triumphed last week.

Returns from 98 per cent of Illinois precincts showed Romney gaining 47 per cent of the vote compared to 35 per cent for Santorum, nine per cent for Ron Paul and eight per cent for a fading Newt Gingrich.

"What a night," Romney said in his victory speech before he directed his remarks at U.S. President Barack Obama.

"It's time to say this word: 'Enough.' We know our future's brighter than these troubled times. We still believe in America and we deserve a president who believes in us, and I believe in the American people."

Santorum, meantime, took to the stage in his home state of Pennsylvania, in the Civil War town of Gettysburg.

"I think this is the most important election since the election of 1860," Santorum said of Abraham Lincoln's electoral triumph 152 years ago. "What's at stake in this election is freedom."

The Louisiana primary is being held on Saturday, a contest in yet another Deep South state that could give Santorum another win and yet another jolt of momentum. Even so, the mathematics are working against him as Romney racks up delegates. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The numbers

The Republican nomination is turning in Mitt Romney's favour. Here's the math.

- **Early poll.** As primary day dawned in Illinois, a Public Policy Polling survey had Romney well ahead of Santorum by a respectable 15 points
- **Illinois numbers.** Romney's prospects in Illinois were enhanced by the fact that Santorum failed to qualify for 10 of the state's 54 delegates
- **Overall delegates.** Romney has 563 delegates in the overall count maintained by The Associated Press, out of 1,144 needed to win the nomination. Santorum has 263 delegates, Gingrich 135 and Paul 50

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Housing numbers

U.S. winter home sales show growth

U.S. sales of previously owned homes dipped last month, but the sales pace for the winter was the best in five years.

The National Association of Realtors says home sales fell 0.9 per cent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.59 million. That followed a revised 4.63 million sold in January — the highest level since May 2010.

The past three months have been the best for winter sales in five years.

The progress is encouraging before the spring buying season, although sales remain below the six million that economists equate with healthy markets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. winter home sales were up.

ALEX BRANDON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economic ties

Harper to talk business, security on Asia trip

Prime Minister Stephen Harper left Wednesday for Asia, he will be talking business in Japan and Thailand over the next few days.

He is expected to announce the start of free-trade talks with one nation and exploratory negotiations with the other before heading to a nuclear-security summit in Korea.

Spokesman Andrew MacDougall says there is much eagerness to expand economic ties beyond the already deepening relationships with China and India.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Twitter turns six with over 100M users

Tech trends. Twitter's influence in society and the media has grown since its launch six years ago

Twitter is now six years away from that first 140 characters-or-less tweet from co-founder Jack Dorsey: "Just setting up my twttr."

Six years ago, the company had just five employees. Now there are more than 800 and the firm aims to have 1,000 by the end of the year.

It took three years, two months and one day to reach one billion tweets on the site. In 2011, 60 billion tweets were sent out.

Twitter has grown over the years to more than 100 million users right now (though Facebook has more than 800 million).

The social network has wormed its way into mainstream society and the media.

The late NDP leader Jack Layton made his infamous reference to "Hashtag Fail" during one of the election debates. People no longer just watch live television — they participate online, tweeting up a storm during events like the Grammys and the Superbowl.

Along with Facebook, it even became a symbol of a new generation during the Arab Spring uprising.

But for all that, Twitter hasn't changed human nature. It has just made it easier to establish the connections we naturally want to make, says Anatoliy Gruzd, director of the Social Media Lab at Dalhousie University.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mad Men take stock in Manhattan

Actor Jon Hamm, centre, is flanked by actress January Jones and Matthew Weiner, creator of the hit television series Mad Men, as he takes a photo with his cellphone during opening-bell ceremonies at the New York Stock Exchange on Wednesday. The show is scheduled to start its new season on Sunday.

RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yahoo. Investor pushing for own board members

Major Yahoo investor Third Point LLC, a hedge fund that has a 5.8 per cent stake in Yahoo, said it thinks the struggling company would fare better if its representatives were in the boardroom helping overhaul Yahoo.

Third Point's letter, released in a regulatory filing on Wednesday, comes one week after the hedge fund said it would launch a campaign to get its four nominees on the board if Yahoo's management didn't accept them.

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British budget. U.K. cuts top income-tax rate

Britain's finance minister has cut the rate of income tax for the country's wealthiest citizens but imposed a raft of measures to prevent tax avoidance and a hefty new charge on expensive property sales in an attempt to spread the burden of austerity across U.K. taxpayers.

In his annual budget statement on Wednesday, George Osborne said he was cutting the top rate to 45 per cent from 50 per cent by April next year on incomes over $239,000 US a year.

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New partnership takes flight

A model of a commercial C919 jumbo jet is displayed at the Asian Aerospace International Expo in Hong Kong in 2009. Bombardier signed an agreement Wednesday to collaborate on forthcoming projects with China's COMAC aircraft manufacturer. VINCENT YU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Air Canada woes concern travellers

Consumer confidence. Some passengers willing to pay more on other airlines to avoid potential service issues

Air Canada has work to do to regain the confidence of passengers following flight cancellations, unresolved labour disputes and the closure of its main repair firm, industry observers said Wednesday.

Jeffrey Bodnarok, who was travelling with his family of six, carefully checked the status of his flight to Punta Cana on Wednesday before making his way to Montreal's Trudeau International Airport.

Bodnarok said he was concerned about the flight after cancellations last weekend, due in part to pilots calling in sick, and this week's closure of aircraft maintenance firm Aveos Fleet Performance.

"I was more concerned that our flight was OK to leave today with what happened this week and everything is good for us," he said at the airport.

Air Canada has been plagued with labour troubles over the past year.

The airline and its pilots and mechanics have been engaged in a bitter contract feud that prompted the federal government to step in earlier this month. Ottawa has also had to intervene in previous labour disputes at the airline.

Travel agent Isabella Caporicci of NDG Travel in Montreal said some nervous passengers have shunned Canada's largest air carrier and switched to alternative airlines in order to avoid any disruption to their travel plans.

Some who view flying with Air Canada as "just too iffy" have even been willing to pay more or endure several airport connections for better service, Caporicci said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Moment

DOLLAR
100.78¢ US
(-0.05¢)

TSX
12,436.5.7 (+5.79)

OIL
$107.27 US (+$1.20)

GOLD
$1,651.10 US (+$3.30)

Natural gas: $2.33 US (-0.3¢)
Dow Jones: 13,124.6 (-45.6)

Employment

Report: Promise of pipeline job boom exaggerated

Enbridge's proposed $5.5-billion Northern Gateway Pipeline won't create nearly as many jobs as the company has proposed, says a new report by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. The report argues that the pipeline will create 1,850 construction jobs per year for three years and a "handful of permanent new jobs" when complete. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pipeline

Obama to call for fast-tracking of Keystone leg

U.S. President Barack Obama is ordering federal agencies to expedite the approval process for the southern leg of TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline. The president is expected to direct the agencies to fast-track the pipeline on Thursday in Cushing, Okla., where there's a glut of Midwest oil that can't easily get to refineries on the Gulf of Mexico. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Budget. Environmental assessment changes loom

Next week's budget will propose a streamlined environmental assessment process, something that will delight the oil patch and give provinces a larger say over resource development.

But one part under consideration for the package — reforms to the Fisheries Act that would end federal oversight over much of the country's fresh water — is proving difficult for some provinces to swallow, sources say.

The environmental changes will be pitched as part of a major theme of the budget: Get government out of the way and let corporations flourish.

They will reflect commitments made increasingly frequently by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his environment and natural resource ministers, to remove barriers to investment and development.

Specific legislative amendments and regulatory fixes will likely be introduced later, with the budget merely outlining the new direction.

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STK #214487

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PUT AN END TO THE ETIQUETTE ARGUMENT

HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca/hesays

Since Adam and Eve first realized they should slap on a fig leaf if they wanted to appear in children's picture books, humanity has realized the importance of proper manners.

I feel strongly about all things etiquette, which is why I have written the following advice Q&A — a feat never attempted before by a columnist at my skill level.

Q: Should letter writers call you Mr. Manners or Ed Etiquette or what?

- Larry Letterwriter

A: Dear Larry: The works of Emily Post tell us that the proper way to begin a letter to a newspaper columnist include, "Your Excellency," "You sexy thing" and "You may have already won $10 million!"

Q: We have new friends we like and we want to let them know we really appreciate their friendship. If I invite them over, how do I make them feel privileged to be there?

- Chipper & Perky Smith

From the expert:

"As you have new friends, I consider the question outside my expertise. I therefore asked a guy on the sidewalk, who said, 'Verbal re-enforcement is key.'"

A: Dear Chipper and Perky: As you have new friends, I consider the question outside my expertise. I therefore asked a guy on the sidewalk, who said, "Verbal re-enforcement is key." Constantly telling your guests, "You're privileged to be here, you know," in a forceful tone will make a lasting impression.

Q: Where should I put the spoon after dessert? If it's served on a plate with a low rim, do I leave it inside the plate or on the side?

- Cornelius Hiram Flowerbottom III, Esq.

A: Dear Mr. Flowerbottom III, Esq.: I have an excellent suggestion of where you should stick your spoon. Judging from your question, however, I have reason to believe you followed that advice many years ago.

Q: I'm dating one of those ultra-cooks who demands you cut cabbage at the proper angle, constantly serves the internal organs of some creature or other and cuts radish rosettes with a speed and efficiency that makes you wonder how she obtained said internal organs. Recently, we've been arguing because she thinks I'm a slob and I think she's right but don't care. She's been getting picky about things like the proper utensil (I think she made up the "salad spoon"). Anyway, things aren't going well and I still haven't made any headway with her younger sister, so what do I do to clear things up?

- Between a rock and a hot plate

A: Dear Between: The important thing to remember here is that the steak knife — placed just to the right of the napkin — is the sharpest knife. Do what you will.

Q: What's the proper way to say goodbye to people you've strung along under the pretense of giving advice when you were really only filling space in a newspaper column for money?

A: So long, suckers.

Your most important etiquette lesson is that your cutlery has multiple functions.
ISTOCK

Hanging by a thread

FRANCOIS MORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Expressive

Getting 'hung up' in artistic work

Suspended by wires, Chinese artist Li Wei performs in the sky at La Villette in Paris on Tuesday. Li Wei, born in 1970, in Hubei, China, is a contemporary artist from Beijing. His work often depicts him in gravity-defying situations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Captivating

Some of his stunts are hair-raising

The artist has produced several self-portraits that involve his face reflected in mirrors in public places, photographs of himself crashing into walls and sidewalks, and many other potentially risky situations, according to the Daily Mail website.

METRO

Particularity

Artists take work to new heights

The artists' scene in China today is moving away from sculptures and paintings to a more performance-based art, using photography and video, according to the Asian Art Coordinating Council. Many forward-thinking artists now use their body as a canvas.

METRO

Metropolitan Panel

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Hunting purely for sport is:

50% OK, IF THAT'S YOUR THING

50% CRUEL AND UNNECESSARY

Twitter

@MaDDN3ss: I hate working in S.E. #yyc sometimes. Stupid trains always block road right at rush hour. Ridiculous.

@RichardNairn: Loud music in your car I get, but cranking up the talk radio? #yyc #yyctraffic

@AshesColby: The feeling you get when finishing the entire crossword...

#smartypants #bliss #yyc

@au_taitai: I still don't know where East Village is. #yyc

@graydares: The lights are on, but we don't have heat! #yyc #Summerplease

@DerivingLife: Dear woman next to me on the train, im not a pillow... #yyc

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2
SCENE

Charity

Olivia Wilde to host cancer research run in New York

Nine years ago, actress Olivia Wilde ran, or rather walked, in the EIF Revlon Run/Walk. In May, she will host the event that supports women's cancer research with fellow first-time ambassador Emma Stone. "Emma and I will kick off the event and welcome everybody, then we'll participate," Wilde said of her duties, which include pounding New York pavement with thousands of participants. The House star says she may even run alongside Stone, but only for a short time. "Maybe Emma will run in the front, and I'll bring up the rear," Wilde joked. "I probably will have such shin splints after attempting to run, I will be recovering on ice."

On the Web

Zsa Zsa Gabor's care subject of Los Angeles court case after daughter requests conservatorship

This is an 'intense play' that's coming your way

Theatre. Mary's Wedding tells the story of first love

BACKSTAGE PASS
Lisa Wilton
calgary@metronews.ca

Sarah Smith and Collin Doyle starred in the original 2002 playRites production of Mary's Wedding by Stephen Massicotte. The critically acclaimed play returns to ATP next week. TRUDIE LEE PHOTOGRAPHY

Calgary playwright and author Stephen Massicotte is living the dream of many an aspiring writer.

Now living in New York City, Massicotte spends part of his days in local coffee shops jotting down ideas and writing dialogue.

He recently finished a new play called 10 Things to Ask Your Biology Teacher About Evolution and is currently working on a young adult fantasy novel.

Though he has an obvious talent for words, Massicotte is the first to admit he wouldn't be where he is today if it wasn't for the success of his play, Mary's Wedding, a decade earlier. Set in the dreamscape of a young woman named Mary Chalmers, the play revolves around her blossoming romance with Charlie, a soldier sent off to fight in France during the First World War.

The play premiered at Alberta Theatre Projects' playRites Festival in 2002 and was a huge success with audiences and visiting artistic directors.

"It sold scads of productions for the next season," recalls Massicotte, who also has a couple of screenplays under his belt, including the 2005 horror movie, The Dark, starring Maria Bello and Sean Bean.

"Since then, there hasn't been a three-month period of time when there hasn't been a production of Mary's Wedding somewhere in North America."

The play returns to ATP's Martha Cohen Theatre next week for a two-and-a-half week run. The reason Mary's Wedding has done so well is partly economics (with only two actors and a simple stage set up, it doesn't cost theatre companies and arm and a leg to produce), and partly its effect on audiences.

"It's an intense play," says Massicotte.

"The love story in it, people really connect to. It's that first love thing. It's that universal experience we all know."

Tickets

- Alberta Theatre Project presents Mary's Wedding March 27 until April 14 at the Martha Cohen Theatre.
- The show stars real-life couple Meg Roe and Alessandro Juliani as star-crossed lovers Mary and Charlie.
- Tickets can be purchased at the Epcor Centre Box Office, online at www.atplive.com or by calling the ATP box office at 403-294-7402.

Controversy. Choreographer wasn't out to shock with Minaj routine

It was Canadian choreographer Laurieann Gibson who orchestrated Nicki Minaj's Grammy performance last month, which — not surprisingly — sparked controversy with its mix of religious iconography, sexual suggestiveness and a mock exorcism.

But Gibson, who has worked closely with the likes of Lady Gaga and Katy Perry, insists she was surprised by the backlash.

"It never felt risky — I wouldn't do risky — I think the only risky part of it was making sure Nicki was prepared to pull off a performance with that many levels. It was her first really big performance and I wanted to be in control of it," Gibson said Tuesday while in Toronto to shoot the upcoming Global series Canada Sings, in which she'll appear as a judge.

According to Gibson, it wasn't her idea to go with the religious theme. Minaj, she said, wanted to play with the idea of exorcising her fictional alter ego, which she calls Roman Zolanski, during the performance of songs Roman's Revenge and Roman Holiday.

"I was like, 'Oh brother,'" Gibson said of her initial reaction to the concept. "Then I was just very inspired by the theatrical ability (of the songs), with the Vatican, and The Borgias, which is one of my favourite shows."

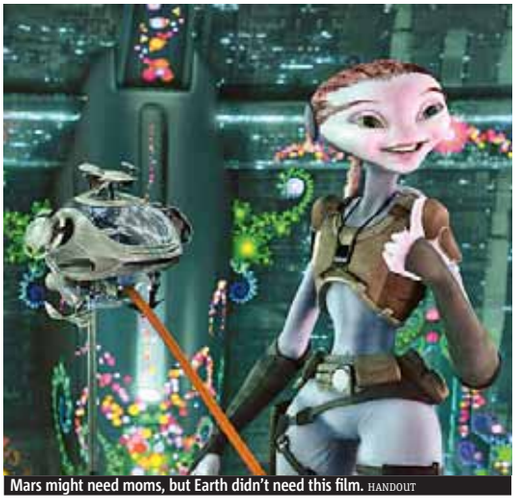
Some viewers said they were downright offended by the performance, including the Catholic League. "What I say is my (art) is just a mirror, it's an image, and if art reflects this other demonic reaction of hatred and confusion then I say, 'My God, you might want to look in the mirror,'" said Gibson. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Laurieann Gibson says she was surprised at the backlash from Nicki Minaj's Grammy performance. TOM UHLMAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bombs at the box office

Many had high hopes for Disney's John Carter, an epic space western directed by Pixar legend Andrew Stanton. But, although the movie was only released a few weeks ago, the company has already admitted their failure: The movie will generate an operating loss of $200 million from production and marketing costs. Sadly, John Carter will go down in history as a major flop. Here are other "memorable" films that are only known for bombing the box office.

METRO



Mars might need moms, but Earth didn't need this film. HANDOUT

John Carter's flop at the box office ranks among the biggest in history. HANDOUT

John Carter

- **Walt Disney Pictures, 2012.** Disney said John Carter has brought in about $184 million in ticket sales worldwide so far. But ticket sales are split roughly in half with theatre owners. The movie's production budget is estimated to be about $250 million with about $100 million more spent on marketing. Disney said the loss on John Carter will cause its studio to lose $80 million to $120 million for the quarter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mars Needs Moms

- **Walt Disney Pictures, 2011.** Bad news for Disney: Earth didn't need Moms. Not only is the movie 37 per cent rotten and has a weak 49 out of 100 score on Metacritic, it only grossed $40 million worldwide of its $175 million budget. It opened on over 3,000 screens, so it had all the chances it could to be a success — well, except for a decent plot.

Cutthroat Island

- **Carolco Pictures, 1995.** This pirate-themed action film starring Geena Davis and Frank Langella cost $115 million to make, but only raked in a paltry $18.5 million worldwide. Adjusting for inflation, that's a loss of over $147.2 million. Ouch. It also previously held the Guinness World Record for Largest Box Office Loss. Double ouch.

Sahara

- **Paramount Pictures, 2005.** Even if your film stars two international sex symbols, Matthew McConaughey and Penelope Cruz, you can still go wrong. Paramount paid $241 million to get Sahara in theatres. Sadly, the reward was not great: It lost $121.7 million. The poor box office showing prevented the sequel that McConaughey had said was being considered.

Penelope Cruz and Matthew McConaughey. HANDOUT

The Alamo

- **Touchstone Pictures, 2004.** The Alamo only grossed $25.8 million worldwide, and 87 per cent of that came from the U.S. audience. Apparently, no one remembered The Alamo.

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Aiming to Touch a global audience

Kiefer Sutherland.

New show centres on communication, and they're trying to reach viewers like never before

Kiefer Sutherland lends a common Touch to his new series uniting people around the world. HANDOUT

Touch hero Jake Bohm is obsessed with numbers, and in a voice-over on this week's premiere episode, the otherwise mute 11-year-old numerologist shares an interesting statistic, "Today the average person will say 2,250 words to 7.4 other individuals."

An average person, sure. But not Kiefer Sutherland in recent weeks.

Sutherland (who plays Jake's devoted father, Martin) has lately been a chatterbox, talking up his show all over the world.

"I'm like the brainy student who blows the curve for the rest of the class," he says with a laugh. "I've met a lot of folks."

It's Monday, the morning after a Touch world-premiere screening in Manhattan, which came on the winged heels of a global blitz that took Sutherland to London, Berlin, Madrid and Moscow. In a couple of hours, he'll be back on a plane returning to L.A., where, with the publicity campaign now just about over, he'll resume shooting Touch full-time.

But right now, he's got a few more words to voice about the show (which debuts Thursday on Global).

For instance, how the universal focus of Touch (created by Tim Kring, architect of the likewise far-flung series Heroes) is reflected in its launch strategy. It's premiering in synch with the U.S. market in more than 100 other countries. Convening a global TV audience that way is unprecedented for a weekly drama series.

"If Touch can be the conduit for a conversation between 150 million people worldwide on a website — talking about things they have in common, as opposed to their differences — that would be amazing," muses Sutherland.

But as Touch has gotten under way, it has touched on Sutherland's memories of his first season doing 24, the action-intrigue show where he played intrepid counter-terrorist Jack Bauer for eight seasons starting in 2001.

"I'd forgotten what it was like to build the framework of a new show," he says.

"It's the most exciting part of doing a show, but it's also the most difficult. The pilot script for Touch was beautiful, but if it isn't fully realized as a series, I'll feel culpable. So there's a kind of panic I had forgotten about since we started 24."

The biggest challenge, says Sutherland, is crafting the on-screen relationship between widowed father Martin and his son.

No wonder. Jake is an emotionally challenged child who never speaks and recoils from any physical contact, even with his dad.

Yet, in his seemingly isolated state, Jake is able to discern mathematical relationships between divergent people around the world (a "giant mosaic of patterns and ratios... hidden in plain sight," as he puts it) that help bring those people together in beneficial ways.

It falls to Martin to puzzle out Jake's numerical cues and then follow through with the necessary legwork. Meanwhile, he struggles to forge a human connection with his son.

"You have to make this relationship relatable to viewers," says Sutherland. "When I read the script, I identified with it hugely: There was a time with my daughter between her 12th and 13th birthdays when, literally, there wasn't a question I asked her that she didn't answer with a single word. I think all parents have communications issues with their children."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Acting with child

As an experienced actor, Sutherland is faced with a new challenge.

- **New challenge.** Of course, there's an associated challenge for Sutherland. At age 45, he's a veteran actor with a hit TV series and dozens of film roles to his credit. But now he must share scenes with a child who has no lines to volley back to him, and who displays little physical response to anything.

Gere would like to forget Pretty Woman

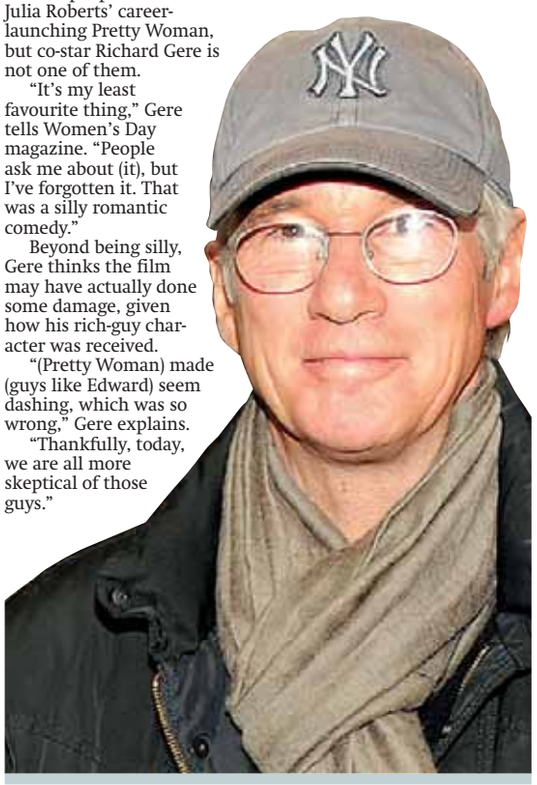
A lot of people still love Julia Roberts' career-launching Pretty Woman, but co-star Richard Gere is not one of them.

"It's my least favourite thing," Gere tells Women's Day magazine. "People ask me about (it), but I've forgotten it. That was a silly romantic comedy."

Beyond being silly, Gere thinks the film may have actually done some damage, given how his rich-guy character was received.

"(Pretty Woman) made (guys like Edward) seem dashing, which was so wrong," Gere explains.

"Thankfully, today, we are all more skeptical of those guys."



Depp and Olsen: What?!

According to In Touch magazine, Johnny Depp was "hunkered down" in Ashley Olsen's apartment for 24 hours in February.

"It was quiet in her apartment, like it was just the two of them in there," an insider recalls. "It didn't seem like it was just a visit between friends."

Whatever they were up to during their overnighter, it certainly left Johnny exhausted. When the star finally left the next day, "he looked like he was out of it," an onlooker said.

Johnny Depp look out of it? You don't say!

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

What's the situation with The Situation?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

There's something fishy going on with Michael "The Situation" Sorrentino, and it's not what you think (I know you're thinking "venereal disease," you dirty, dirty reader, you).

Nope. He's in rehab — but the reasons why are very murky.

Apparently, the Jersey Shore star became "dependent on prescription pills to counter-act his hard partying lifestyle, which included illegal substances. Mike was in a vicious cycle of not sleeping because of the illegal substances that he was taking, so he began using prescription pills to help him sleep," a source told RadarOnline.

"Mike would refer to the prescription pills as 'downers.' The good news is that he was the one that wanted to get help and checked into rehab. Hopefully with the proper treatment, Mike will be able to lead a sober life."

But his representative has denied all of this, issuing the classic "he's suffering from exhaustion" statement: "He is not in rehab for substance abuse. He has spent the last several weeks at an undisclosed location for much needed rest and recuperation after his extensive production and appearance schedule."

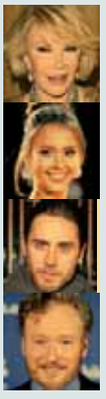
Michael "The Situation" Sorrentino
GETTY IMAGES

As for Sorrentino, he tweeted Tuesday night: "Don't believe everything you read or hear."

Now, I know I'm naive about how these things work. But if he is indeed in rehab for substance abuse, doesn't that mean he probably shouldn't be partying so hard when Jersey Shore goes back for filming the just-announced sixth season? With Snookie not drinking because of her pregnancy and The Situation refraining from "hard partying" because of his demons, what is to become of a show that is completely based around its characters getting wasted?

Jeez. Next thing you know, they're going to start using sunblock.

Twitter



@Joan_Rivers
So depressing. I can't believe I turned 78. I don't feel 76. I guess we all turn 74 eventually. Oh well, 72 is just a number...

@jessicaalba
Coffee please

@jaredleto
I love a nice cool rainy day. You?

@ConanOBrien
At some point, I'm going to have to tell my kids they're not adopted. They'll be crushed.

Reese Witherspoon expecting baby No. 3?

Reese Witherspoon

Reese Witherspoon is reportedly pregnant with her third child — and first with husband Jim Toth, according to Us Weekly.

"Reese is right around 12 weeks," a source explains, adding that Witherspoon is "not planning to announce it."

But it's all said to be part of the plan for the couple, who tied the knot last year.

"Jim and Reese have been trying to get pregnant," a source says. "The timing is right. She's so happy."

Witherspoon also has a 12-year-old daughter, Ava, and an 8-year-old son, Deacon, with ex-husband Ryan Phillippe.

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3 LIFE

Yay or nay?

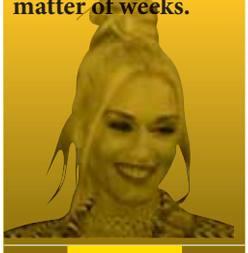
Hipster babies

YAY

- **Your kid will be the trendiest on the playground.**

NAY

- **You could blow the baby's college fund on clothes she'll outgrow in a matter of weeks.**



On the Web

Top CFDA fashion prizes going to Johnny Depp, Tommy Hilfiger and maybe Olsens.

Imagine, a little Snooki

Oh baby! In honour of Hollywood's latest baby boom, we've come up with some predictions for what the round of expecting celebs' might dress their offspring in

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News in London

So far, 2012 has been especially busy on the celebrity bump front. Beyoncé kicked it off with little Blue Ivy. And waiting in the wings: Jessica Simpson, her ex Nick Lachey, Uma Thurman, Sienna Miller, Snooki (yes, her too) and, rumour has it, Drew Barrymore. That means more information than you'd ever want to know about Simpson's salted cantaloupe cravings and the frightening prospect of a little Snooki in Uggs. We dress their babies to be.

Miller's expecting... GETTY

...and Jessica Simpson definitely is. GETTY

Snooki's got a bun in the oven too. GETTY

Mini Jessica Simpson

Baby Gap one-shoulder two-piece.
$25, gap.com

Pint-sized Nick Lachey

Appaman Polo
$40, appaman.com

Mini A Ture Arn in Sesame
$46, kidsen.co.uk

Tiny Sienna Miller

Kidscase organic dress
$37, kidsen.co.uk

Lil' Snooki

Mini Rodini Zebra Print infant bodysuit and leggings
$76, kidsen.co.uk

Smaller Uma Thurman

Marimekko dress
$69, kiitosmarimekko.com

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@Jeanne_Beker: And what's a birthday celebration without your best little buddy?

@Jeanne_Beker: Daring to Wear Love @ gretconstantine for the Stephen Lewis Foundation..

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Emily Richards makes easy look elegant with diverse eats

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Pesto and Tomato Lamb Pasta. Use pesto to add colour and zip to this simple dish

You can change the flavour of this pasta dish by mixing up the ingredients, to make it easy to incorporate into your kitchen.

Pesto's great to add for lots of flavour with one simple ingredient. Sprinkle the finished pasta dish with feta or Parmesan cheese.

For an added spice, add hot pepper flakes to the onion mixture while cooking.

Ingredients

4 portions

- 1 lb (500 g) ground Ontario lamb
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) olive oil
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 can (398 mL) diced tomatoes with juices
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) chicken broth or stock
- 2 tsp (10 mL) dried Italian herb seasoning
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt, pepper
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) sundried tomato pesto
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) sliced black olives
- 3 cups (750 mL) dry penne lisce

1. In large non-stick skillet, brown lamb for about 5 minutes over medium high heat or until no longer pink. Scrape lamb into colander and let drain.

2. Return skillet to medium heat and add oil. Cook onion, garlic and Italian seasoning for 5 minutes or until softened. Add tomatoes, chicken broth, browned lamb, salt and pepper and bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 8 minutes. Stir in pesto and olives; cook for about 5 minutes or until thickened.

3. Meanwhile, in a large pot of boiling salted water, cook pasta for about 10 minutes or until tender but firm. Drain well and add to skillet. Toss to coat.

Pesto Tomato and Lamb Pasta

You can also try another short pasta such as rotini, fusilli or shells. EMILY RICHARDS

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND CELEBRITY TV CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Cookbook of the Week

Get in the Kitchen and COOK!

Metro's own Emily Richards puts the focus on the busy family and people looking to entertain without a fuss in her second book, Get in the Kitchen and COOK! (Blurb Inc., $35.95, paperback).

The release is chock full of simple, fool-proof recipes for any occasion. This book has everything from appetizers to desserts.

"I love food and I love the way food brings friends and family together. It's also a great way of sharing a lifelong skill. No matter what your age, background or interest, it's so easy to come together and talk about food and get inspired," says Richards. METRO

Fragrant Steamed Lemongrass Mussels make for casual appy

These mussels are great for sharing. EMILY RICHARDS

Fragrant lemongrass fills the air with a citrus aroma while the mussels steam to produce a flavourful juice.

A steaming pot of mussels is a wonderful appetizer that can be enjoyed casually as everyone digs in and shares from one pot.

As another option, you could serve this chilled.

Cook as outline here and transfer mussels to a bowl. Boil liquid for about 5 minutes or until reduced by half. (If using chicken stock, do not reduce liquid.) Remove mussels from the shells and add to reduced liquid. Reserve half of each shell. Cover and refrigerate mussels and shells for at least 1 hour or up to 24 hours. Arrange shells on lettuce-lined platter and fill each with a mussel. Drizzle remaining liquid over top and sprinkle with remaining coriander.

1. Trim tops and ends of lemongrass and remove outer layers. Using the back of a knife, gently bruise stalks. Cut in half lengthwise, then crosswise into thin slices.

Ingredients

6 portions

- 2 stalks lemongrass
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) vegetable oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Thai bird chili pepper, sliced
- ¼ cup (50 mL) white wine
- ¼ cup (50 mL) water
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) fish or soy sauce
- ½ tsp (2 mL) grated lime rind
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) lime juice
- ½ cup (125 mL) chopped fresh coriander
- 3 lb (1.5 kg) mussels, rinsed

2. In Dutch oven, heat oil over medium heat. Add garlic and pepper and cook stirring for 1 minute or until fragrant. Add wine, fish sauce, lime rind and juice and half of the coriander. Bring to a boil and add mussels.

3. Cover and cook, stirring once, for about 5 minutes or until all mussels are open. Discard any mussels that do not open. Pour mussels into a large platter and sprinkle with the remaining coriander. EMILY RICHARDS

French Toast with Salmon on Greens. A delicious brunch dish

Ingredients

6 portions

- Half of a baguette
- 3 eggs
- ⅓ cup (75 mL) 5% light cream
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) Italian parsley, minced
- ½ tsp (2 mL) smoked paprika
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) salt
- Pinch pepper
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) butter
- 12 cups (3 L) mixed greens
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) lemon juice
- 1 pkg (4 oz/125 g) thinly sliced smoked salmon
- ¼ cup (50 mL) diced red onion
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) drained capers

1. Slice the baguette into ½-inch (1 cm) thick slices to get 12 slices. Set aside.

2. In a shallow dish, whisk together the eggs, cream, parsley, paprika, half of the salt and pepper. Dip each slice of bread into the egg mixture, turning it to coat well.

3. Melt half of the butter in a non-stick skillet over medium-high heat and pan-fry baguette slices for about 3 minutes turning once or until golden. Repeat with remaining baguette slices.

4. In a bowl, toss the mixed greens with oil, lemon juice and remaining salt and divide onto 6 plates. Divide the baguette slices and top with thinly smoked salmon. Sprinkle with red onion and capers.

EMILY RICHARDS

Flushmount light fixtures add interest without hanging low in the room. Courtney fixture, $290. SEARS

Low-profile furniture helps create taller-looking walls and higher ceilings. Plush Bed, $1,000. CB2

Vertical patterns help to draw the eye up on curtains. Viceroy Velvet Drapes, $108/panel. ANTHROPOLOGIE

Making ceilings soar

Decor ideas. Do your walls have tall aspirations? Here's a few design tricks to make your ceilings appear higher.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

There was a time when eight-foot ceilings were considered the norm in apartments, condos and townhouses.

Over the last 10 years, many newer homes include soaring ceilings to make up for the smaller footprints of space being offered.

But if you're dealing with eight-foot ceilings don't despair; there are some designer tips to help make those daunting lower ceilings rise up to the occasion, in a stylish, modern way that you'll love.

Paint

I have always subscribed to the old rule that ceilings should be white, and this idea holds even truer when ceilings are lower. A light ceiling will reflect light and draw the eye upward rather than bring the ceiling down in to the room. A slight sheen to your paint will make small spaces with low ceilings look larger by reflecting and bouncing light around. When choosing colours for the entire room, it's always best to create a monochromatic scheme, keeping ceilings lighter.

Window treatments

A vertical blind or drapery panels create tall lines in a room and stretch your view upwards. Tall, vertical patterns on draperies will help make the ceilings look higher. Draperies should be within the same colour as the colour of the walls to create a monochromatic colour scheme while still drawing the eye upward.

Furnishings

Keep chairs and sofa heights to a maximum of 36 inches in height in order to create a low-slung, lounge effect; the lower we sit to the ground the higher the ceilings will appear. This rule holds even more true when choosing a bed and night tables. Keep area rugs colourful and dramatic in order to draw the eye down and away from the ceiling. Tall, floor standing mirrors are a great accessory and can help guide the eye upward (plus the mirror visually enlarges a room).

Mouldings and trims

Paint baseboards, door frames, interior doors and crown moulding the same colour and tone as the walls to create a contemporary and simple vibe; plus you add a few extra inches of visual wall height to the room with just the one colour.

Artwork

Lowering all your artwork a few inches from the norm (the middle of the artwork should be 68 to 70 inches off the floor). This will create a greater distance from the top of the art to the ceiling, therefore suggesting the ceilings are a bit taller. This is a great trick in lower levels and basements, too.

Light fixtures

The bottom of a chandelier or swagged lamp should be hung three to four inches higher than average over an eating table. The bottom should normally be 30 inches from table to bottom of fixture, so raise it to about 34 inches and it will visually help to push your ceilings up.

Considering the height restrictions, consider a semi-flush light fixture rather than a hanging fixture; they can be just as decorative and yet are not made to hang low into a room (see top left).

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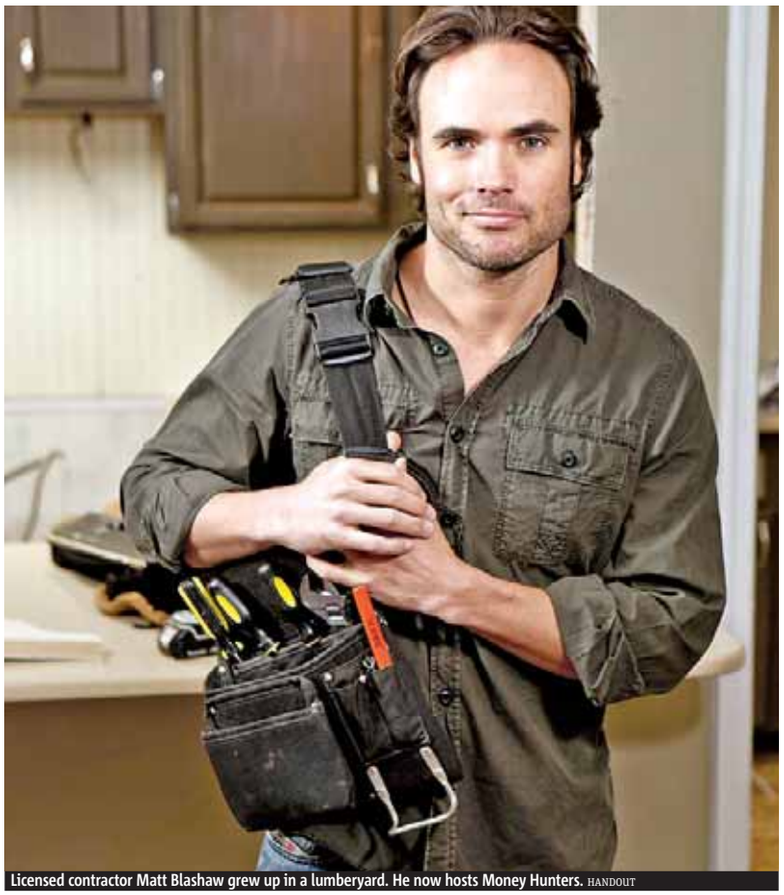

Licensed contractor Matt Blashaw grew up in a lumberyard. He now hosts Money Hunters. HANDOUT

Save a pile of money on your remodel

DIY ideas. Home improvements don't have to cost an arm and a leg. Here's a few cheap tricks that can make your renos less pricey.

Remodelling can be extremely expensive to take on, but with the right tips and tricks, you can save yourself thousands of dollars without sacrificing the look of your home.

In every episode of Money Hunters, Deanne Bell and Matt Blashaw share money-saving techniques as they show homeowners which materials and techniques will stretch their dollars.

1. Repurpose certain elements that may be too expensive to replace entirely, like cabinet doors. Cabinets are often the most expensive thing to replace in a remodel. Changing just the outdated doors will save money, but still transform the whole look of your kitchen.

2. Add a beadboard backsplash instead of using ceramic tiles. Beadboard is an easy, inexpensive and stylish alternative to a tile backsplash.

3. To open up a small space, paint walls white to give it a fresh and open feel.

4. Shop salvage yards, antique shops and flea markets for deals and finds such as work tables, shelving or cupboards.

5. Purchase an easy-to-assemble wainscoting kit for about $150 at your local hardware store. Wainscoting instantly adds detail and interest to an empty wall. Use it in the kitchen to protect the walls from everyday wear and tear. Depending on the finish and design of the wainscoting, it is practical and usable in any room in your house.

6. When going appliance shopping, look for floor models. You will only be missing the box. Or, check out scratch and dent outlets to find a top-of-the-line model for a reduced price.

MONEY HUNTERS AIRS BACK-TO-BACK EPISODES ON THURSDAYS AT 9 P.M. ET/PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA.

Do some bartering, baby

If doing the work yourself isn't an option, find ways to barter with friends who are handy. Offer to babysit, mow the lawn or run errands in exchange for their handy expertise.

Add some bling

Replace accessories and hardware such as door knobs, kitchen faucets and light fixtures.

- **Small touches go a long way.** You can even put up new window treatments. Something simple can go a long way in updating the look of your remodeled room.

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Mail-order bride? Sketchy. Mail-order plants? Sure!

Proceed with caution. If your local nursery doesn't have what you're looking for, consider getting a quality plant delivered to your door

People often stare in disbelief when I suggest buying a plant from a nursery thousands of kilometres away. Surely no plant could survive such a journey!

Not so. This time of year, trucks and airplane holds are filled with plants on the move. If shipped from reputable nurseries, they thrive as well as plants purchased locally.

Buyer beware

That "if" is a big one. Quality costs money, so beware of any nursery offering super-bargains or horticultural hype.

For instance, you might see a magazine ad or catalogue listing for a plant described as a "climbing vine peach." Be aware that this plant's fruits might look like peaches but are tasteless by comparison. This "vine peach" isn't even distantly related to a real peach.

And just because a nursery offers an "iron-clad guarantee" does not make it reputable. Some disreputable nurseries offer such guarantees but bank on customers' apathy or their forgetting about such claims when spring melts into summer.

A few rotten fruits do not ruin the whole barrel, though: Many mail-order nurseries sell quality plants and also have strong guarantees.

Just read between the lines of any nursery ad, catalogue or website to determine if the business seems reputable, and do your research about the plants.

Bare root of potted?

Mail-order plants are shipped either potted or bare root.

"Bare root" sounds brutal, but plants do fine shipped this way if handled properly by the nursery and you.

Mail-order plants shown in New Paltz, N.Y. LEE REICH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

The nursery's job is to dig the plants while they are leafless, except in the case of small evergreens, then keep them cool with their roots swathed in moist peat, sawdust, shredded newspaper or other moist, spongy material.

Years ago, I received a small, bare-root bush cherry plant that had been just tossed into a plastic bag; no wonder it never grew.

Your job is to unpack any bare-root plant soon after its arrival, check that the roots are still moist, then put it in the ground posthaste.

If you cannot plant immediately, keep the plant cool and moist by putting it in your refrigerator with its roots wrapped in plastic, or by temporarily planting it in a shallow hole at a shady, moist location.

Potted plants can go longer before being planted out in their permanent location — as long as you keep the potting soil moist. The nursery's job, in this case, is to pack the plants to arrive at your doorstep with their stems undamaged and their soil intact.

Some nurseries have mastered the art of packing and shipping live plants. Opening a shipping box of their neatly nestled, happy plants gladdens any plant lover's eyes.

Finally, there is something satisfying about walking into a nursery on a balmy spring day, drinking in the bright colours, the smells, the riot of greenery and textures, then buying a plant. But if a local nursery does not have the type or quality you desire, consider mail-order.

LEE REICH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Fraid so

Size matters

Whether you are ordering a bare-root or potted plant — even if you are buying locally — do not always opt for the largest one you can buy.

Large, bare-root plants often suffer more in digging and transit. Large potted plants often have their roots cramped and twisted into undersize pots.

In either case, growth of a smaller plant might outstrip growth of a larger one after a couple of years.

Find a summer camp that will fit your child's interests, needs and comfort level. Some kids may enjoy canoeing, while others may not be comfortable on the water. GIRL GUIDES CANADA PHOTOS

How to zero in on the right activity

Choices. Talk to your child to see what they will enjoy the most

PAULINE ANDERSON
For Metro

With so many camps to choose from, finding the one that best suits your child's interests, needs and comfort level might seem like a daunting task. But there are steps to make it easier.

Start by discussing with your child how long they would like to be away, how far away they are willing to go, whether they would prefer to go with a friend or is OK with going alone, and whether they are comfortable with a co-ed camp.

Also talk to your child about what kind of camp — music, sports, etc. — they might enjoy.

"If a child has a specific desire to do some activity, that's helpful to know, and parents can zero in on that," says Doug Saul, camp director, Camp Chief Hector, a YMCA camp in Alberta. So if your child is passionate about soccer, a soccer camp might be perfect for them.

On the other hand, if they play indoor soccer all winter, perhaps they would want to try something entirely different outdoors.

"He may want to do horseback riding or backpacking for some diversity," says Saul.

Remember, though, camps typically offer the same wonderful experience.

"Kids would be happy with almost any camp they went to because there's going to be that sense of camaraderie, and safe and fun activities at almost any camp they go to," says Saul.

Narrow your search to camps that are accredited. This means that they not only meet minimum provincial standards for such things as fire safety, food service and health care, but also voluntarily abide by additional standards deemed best practices in such areas as safety, programs and leadership.

A great place to search is the Canadian Camping Association (ccamping.org). Click on the province you live in, and punch in the camp criteria you are interested in. For example, says Saul, "if you prefer a residential co-ed camp that has sailing and canoe tripping, look on the menu and check those boxes."

Most camps offer sessions from as early as age seven and some go up to age 17 years.

Consider easing your child into camp by first taking them to a family camp. Here they can get a taste of the camp experience in the company of mom, dad and siblings.

"The family can make that camp part of their community, and when it's time for kids to go without parents, they feel at home," says Saul.

The Girl Guides offer "parent and me" weekends and even "grandma, mom and me" weekends to aid in the transition from family camping to solo camping, says Jill Dundas, the executive director of Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council.

Finally, consider your budget; camps can be hard on the bankbook, especially if you have more than one child. Check with your provincial camping association for information on financial assistance.

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4 SPORTS

Flames preview

Calgary at Minnesota, 6 p.m.

(Sportsnet West)

The Flames (34-26-14) visit Minnesota (30-32-10), which snapped a three-game losing streak with a 2-0 win over Vancouver on Monday. Josh Harding made 33 saves for the win, his second shutout of the season and his first start since being sidelined with a lower-body injury. Dany Heatley has one goal in his last 16 games and has gone eight games without a point. Mikko Koivu (shoulder) is practicing with the team and may return tonight.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stajan steps up game, but Bouwmeester not so much

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Brian Costello
calgary@metronews.ca

Matt Stajan celebrates his goal against the Colorado Avalanche on Tuesday in Denver. DOUG PENSINGER/GETTY IMAGES

Some general thoughts as the Flames play havoc with the nerves of Calgary fans down the stretch:

• Nice to see Matt Stajan step up the effort and energy level. Having Jarome Iginla and Alex Tanguay as linemates helps, as does the ice time, but it's the extra jump in his stride that's just as noticeable as the production. I've been a critic of the whipping boy the past two years, calling him too weak and slow to be a difference-maker, but I certainly don't mind being proven wrong the past few weeks.

• It would be nice to see Jay Bouwmeester step up his game the way Stajan has. I'm not seeing any sense of urgency in Bouwmeester's shifts and sadly, I don't think it's in his nature to play with passion or find another gear or get angry or get intense or obliterate an opponent in front of the net. Beats me why he gets so much ice time. Beats me why the ham-handed one even gets a sniff of power-play time.

• Yes, it's a breakthrough season for Olli Jokinen and sure he'll cash in close to $5 million a season as a free agent in July. So why haven't I noticed him more these past few games (he's point-less in five) when the Flames have needed him the most. The stats show he's been dominant in the faceoff circle recently (yet just 45.3 per cent on the season), but it's rare to see him rush the puck and his playmaking skills have gone dormant. Could be the 33-year-old is getting tired in the busiest month in Flames history.

• If the Flames continue to flounder the next few games and fall out of the playoff picture, I'd consider making the last four or five games an exercise in experimentation. Go exclusively with Henrik Karlsson and Leland Irving in goal — to see who rise to the top — and give prime playing time to Roman Horak, Lance Bouma, Guillaume Desbiens, Greg Nemisz, et al. It gives them valuable NHL experience and opens the door to falling a few spots in the standings. If Calgary just misses the playoffs, they could select 14th overall in the draft. But a more dramatic fall could see them select as high as eighth or ninth. This year's NHL draft has a marked talent drop off after the first 10 or 11 players according to most scouts. It would be a silver lining to select in that upper tier.

NFL

Saints coach suspended for the entire season

Meting out unprecedented punishment for a crush-for-cash bounty system that targeted key opposing players, the NFL suspended New Orleans Saints head coach Sean Payton without pay for next season and indefinitely banned the team's former defensive co-ordinator, Gregg Williams.

Payton is the first head coach suspended by the league for any reason, accused of trying to cover up a system of extra cash payouts that NFL commissioner Roger Goodell on Wednesday called "particularly unusual and egregious" and "totally unacceptable."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sean Payton
MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Tebow traded to the Jets

The Broncos and the Jets have completed a trade to send quarterback Tim Tebow to New York. Denver will receive fourth- and sixth-round draft picks, while New York gets a seventh-rounder.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

"Without his heart having a muscular beat ... In effect, he was dead in that time."

Bolton team doctor Jonathan Tobin on the 78-minute period when Fabrice Muamba's heart stopped beating.

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
dx-NY Rangers	73	46	20	2	5	201	161	99	26-9-0-2	20-11-2-3	5-5-0-0	W2
d-Boston	72	42	27	1	2	236	178	87	22-13-1-1	20-14-0-1	4-6-0-0	W2
d-Florida	73	36	24	5	8	183	201	85	20-9-1-7	16-15-4-1	6-3-0-1	L1
Pittsburgh	72	45	21	3	3	239	184	96	25-8-2-0	20-13-1-3	9-0-1-0	W1
Philadelphia	73	42	23	2	6	232	206	92	19-11-1-4	23-12-1-2	7-2-0-1	L1
New Jersey	74	42	27	2	3	201	191	89	20-13-0-3	22-14-2-0	6-4-0-0	W1
Ottawa	74	37	27	6	4	221	214	84	19-15-2-2	18-12-4-2	4-4-0-2	L2
Washington	73	37	30	3	3	198	208	80	23-10-1-2	14-20-2-1	5-4-1-0	W1
Buffalo	74	35	29	4	6	190	207	80	19-11-3-5	16-18-1-1	6-2-0-2	W2
Winnipeg	73	34	31	4	4	196	211	76	23-11-1-3	11-20-3-1	4-5-0-1	L2
Carolina	74	30	29	9	6	197	218	75	19-13-1-5	11-16-8-1	6-2-2-0	W4
Toronto	**74**	**32**	**34**	**4**	**4**	**210**	**232**	**72**	**16-14-3-3**	**16-20-1-1**	**3-6-0-1**	**L2**
Tampa Bay	72	32	33	4	3	202	247	71	21-14-1-1	11-19-3-2	4-5-1-0	L3
NY Islanders	73	30	32	7	4	174	218	71	15-16-5-1	15-16-3-2	4-4-1-1	W2
Montreal	74	28	33	4	9	191	206	69	13-15-2-7	15-18-2-2	4-3-2-1	L3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
dx-St. Louis	73	46	19	1	7	189	142	100	29-4-1-3	17-15-0-4	7-2-0-1	W1
d-Vancouver	73	43	21	2	7	224	184	95	21-10-0-4	22-11-3-2	3-5-1-1	L2
d-Dallas	73	40	28	1	4	193	195	85	21-13-0-3	19-15-1-1	7-2-0-1	W1
Detroit	74	44	25	3	2	225	181	93	28-5-1-1	16-20-2-1	2-6-2-0	L6
Nashville	73	42	23	3	5	209	192	92	23-9-2-3	19-14-1-2	5-4-0-1	L1
Chicago	75	42	25	4	4	229	214	92	26-7-1-4	16-18-3-0	8-1-0-1	W5
Colorado	75	40	30	3	2	196	196	85	22-15-0-1	18-15-3-1	7-2-0-1	W2
Los Angeles	73	36	25	5	7	172	160	84	20-13-0-4	16-12-5-3	8-2-0-0	W4
Phoenix	74	36	26	3	9	194	192	84	18-12-2-4	18-14-1-5	3-4-0-3	L1
San Jose	73	36	27	5	5	199	191	82	21-12-2-1	15-15-3-4	3-4-1-2	L2
Calgary	74	34	26	6	8	183	201	82	20-10-1-5	14-16-5-3	5-1-2-2	L3
Anaheim	74	31	32	5	6	185	206	73	19-16-2-0	12-16-3-6	4-5-1-0	W1
Minnesota	72	30	32	2	8	155	199	70	16-15-1-3	14-17-1-5	2-7-0-1	W1
Edmonton	73	29	36	3	5	196	216	66	18-15-2-3	11-21-1-2	4-4-1-1	W1
Columbus	73	23	43	2	5	167	236	53	13-20-1-2	10-23-1-3	5-5-0-0	L1

x — clinched playoff berth; **d** — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Buffalo 3 Montreal 0
Carolina 3 Florida 1
N.Y. Rangers 2 Detroit 1 (OT)
Chicago 2 Vancouver 1 (OT)
St. Louis at Anaheim

Tuesday's results
Edmonton 6 Nashville 3
Colorado 2 Calgary 1 (OT)
New Jersey 1 Ottawa 0
N.Y. Islanders 5 Toronto 2
Pittsburgh 8 Winnipeg 4
Chicago 5 Columbus 1
Dallas 4 Phoenix 3 (SO)
Florida 2 Philadelphia 1
Los Angeles 5 San Jose 2

Tonight's games
Washington at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
St. Louis at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Boston at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Tomorrow's games
Toronto at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Winnipeg at Washington, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

SABRES 3, CANADIENS 0

First Period
1. Buffalo, Hodgson 17 (Ehrhoff, Tropp) 6:15
Penalties — Staubitz Mtl, McCormick Buf (fighting) 2:47, Leino Buf (hooking) 7:55.
Second Period
2. Buffalo, Pominville 28 (Leino, Roy) 2:31
Penalties — Leblanc Mtl (delay of game) 9:51, Roy Buf (hooking) 18:22.
Third Period
3. Buffalo, Hodgson 18 (Roy, Vanek) 12:45 (pp)
Penalties — Eller Mtl (hooking) 5:30, Staubitz Mtl (interference) 11:56, Cole Mtl (goaltender interference) 16:42, Vanek Buf (slashing) 17:59, Pacioretty Mtl (unsportsmanlike conduct) 18:40, Subban Mtl (cross-checking, roughing) 19:30.
Shots

Montreal	15	7	12	34
Buffalo	10	11	10	31

Goal — Montreal: Price (L,25-27-10); Buffalo: Miller (W,27-18-7). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Montreal: 0-2; Buffalo: 1-6.
Att. — 18,690 (18,690) at Buffalo.

RANGERS 2, WINGS 1 (OT)

First Period
1. Detroit, Zetterberg 19 (White, Nyquist) 3:36
2. N.Y. Rangers, Richards 24 (Lundqvist) 14:58 (pp)
Penalty — Detroit bench (too many men; served by Bertuzzi) 14:30.
Second Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — Zuccarello NYR (tripping) 9:43, Holmstrom Det (goaltender interference) 11:54.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalty — Quincey Det (holding) 8:20.
Overtime
3. N.Y. Rangers, R.Callahan 27 (Del Zotto, Dubinsky) 2:42
Penalties — None.
Shots

Detroit	10	6	9	2—27
N.Y. Rangers	13	6	11	4—34

Goal — Detroit: Conklin (L,3-5-1); N.Y. Rangers: Lundqvist (W,34-15-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Detroit: 0-1; N.Y. Rangers: 1-3.
Att. — 18,200 (18,200) at New York.

HAWKS 2, CANUCKS 1 (OT)

First Period
1. Vancouver, Hansen 15 (Pahlsson) 0:27
Penalties — Stalberg Chi (hooking) 2:43, Bollig Chi (roughing) 6:01, Keith Chi (elbowing) 13:36.
Second Period
2. Chicago, Kane 20 (Hossa, Brunette) 3:12
Penalties — Bieksa Vcr (slashing) 4:25, Burrows Vcr (roughing) 6:07, Burrows Vcr, Keith Chi (double roughing, misconduct), Kassian Vcr (roughing, misconduct; served by Weise) 9:09, H.Sedin Vcr (hooking) 13:06, H.Sedin Vcr (goaltender interference) 15:28.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Overtime
3. Chicago, Shaw 11 (Oduya, Bolland) 2:42
Penalties — None.
Shots

Vancouver	6	3	14	1—24
Chicago	12	11	12	2—37

Goal — Vancouver: Luongo (L,27-14-8); Chicago: Crawford (W,27-16-5). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 0-3; Chicago: 0-5.
Att. — 21,715 (19,717) at Chicago.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Malkin, Pgh	43	50	93
Stamkos, TB	50	34	84
Giroux, Pha	26	58	84
Kessel, Tor	36	40	76
Spezza, Ott	29	46	75
Kovalchuk, NJ	31	43	74
Tavares, NYI	31	42	73
Hossa, Chi	29	44	73
Neal, Pgh	35	37	72
Karlsson, Ott	19	53	72
Eberle, Edm	32	38	70
Elias, NJ	25	45	70
H.Sedin, Vcr	13	57	70
Ra.Whitney, Phx	23	46	69
Eriksson, Dal	26	42	68
Thornton, SJ	16	52	68
D.Sedin, Vcr	30	37	67
Lupul, Tor	25	42	67
Gaborik, NYR	35	31	66
Pominville, Buf	27	39	66
Kopitar, LA	24	41	65
Hartnell, Pha	35	29	64
Sharp, Chi	30	34	64
St. Louis, TB	23	41	64
E.Staal, Car	21	43	64
Parenteau, NYI	16	48	64
Iginla, Cal	31	31	62
Parise, NJ	28	34	62
Selanne, Ana	23	39	62
Moulson, NYI	32	29	61
Seguin, Bos	26	34	60
Datsyuk, Det	17	43	60
Filppula, Det	23	36	59
P.Kane, Chi	19	40	59
Zetterberg, Det	18	41	59
Wheeler, Wpg	17	42	59
Couture, SJ	30	28	58
Pacioretty, Mtl	30	28	58

Not including last night's games

SOCCER

ENGLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE
Yesterday's results
Manchester City 2 Chelsea 1
Everton 0 Arsenal 1
Queens Park Rangers 3 Liverpool 2
Tottenham 1 Stoke 1

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP
Yesterday's results
Blackpool 3 Leicester 3
Cardiff 2 Coventry 2
Ipswich 1 Burnley 0

FRANCE

FRENCH CUP
Quarter-finals
Gazelec Ajaccio 1 Montpellier 0
Paris Saint-Germain 1 Lyon 3
Valenciennes 1 Rennes 3

GERMANY

GERMAN CUP
Semifinals
Borussia Moenchengladbach 0 Bayern Munich 0 (extra time)
(Bayern advanced 4-2 on penalties)

ITALY

ITALIAN CUP
Semifinals
Napoli 2 Siena 0
(Napoli advances on 3-2 aggregate)

SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH CUP
Sixth Round
Replay
St. Mirren 0 Hearts 2

SPAIN

LA LIGA
Yesterday's results
Atletico Madrid 2 Athletic Bilbao 1
Sporting Gijon 2 Mallorca 3
Valencia 1 Zaragoza 2
Villarreal vs. Real Madrid

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	2	0	0	6	4	0
Houston	2	0	0	6	2	0
Chicago	0	0	1	1	1	1
Montreal	0	1	1	1	1	3
Toronto	0	1	0	0	1	3
Columbus	0	1	0	0	0	2
Philadelphia	0	2	0	0	2	5
D.C.	0	2	0	0	1	4
New York	0	2	0	0	1	4
New England	0	2	0	0	0	4

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Real Salt Lake	2	0	0	6	5	1
Colorado	2	0	0	6	4	1
Vancouver	2	0	0	6	3	0
Portland	1	0	1	4	4	2
Dallas	1	0	1	4	3	2
Seattle	1	0	0	3	3	1
Los Angeles	1	1	0	3	4	4
San Jose	1	1	0	3	1	1
Chivas USA	0	2	0	0	0	2

Tomorrow's game
Houston at Seattle, 10 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Chicago	39	10	.796	—
d-Miami	34	11	.756	3
Orlando	30	18	.625	8½
d-Philadelphia	26	21	.553	12
Indiana	26	18	.591	10½
Atlanta	27	20	.574	11
Boston	24	21	.533	13
New York	23	24	.489	15
Milwaukee	21	24	.467	16
Cleveland	17	27	.386	19½
Detroit	16	30	.348	21½
Toronto	15	32	.319	23
New Jersey	15	33	.313	23½
Washington	11	34	.244	26
Charlotte	7	37	.159	29½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	35	12	.745	—
d-San Antonio	30	14	.682	3½
d-L.A. Lakers	29	18	.617	6
Memphis	25	19	.568	8½
L.A. Clippers	26	20	.565	8½
Dallas	27	21	.563	8½
Denver	26	21	.553	9
Houston	25	22	.532	10
Utah	24	22	.522	10½
Phoenix	23	24	.489	12
Minnesota	23	25	.479	12½
Portland	21	25	.457	13½
Golden State	19	25	.432	14½
Sacramento	17	29	.370	17½
New Orleans	11	35	.239	23½

d-division leader

Last night's results
Chicago 94 Toronto 82
Orlando 103 Phoenix 93
New York 82 Philadelphia 79
Atlanta 103 Cleveland 102, OT
Washington 108 New Jersey 89
Oklahoma City 114 L.A. Clippers 91
Golden State 101 New Orleans 92
San Antonio 116 Minnesota 100
Denver 116 Detroit 115
L.A. Lakers 109 Dallas 93

CURLING

WOMEN'S WORLD CURLING CHAMPIONSHIP
At Lethbridge, Alta.

Country (Skip)	W	L
Canada (Nedohin)	**7**	**2**
South Korea (JS.Kim)	6	2
Sweden (Sigfridsson)	6	2
Switzerland (Ott)	6	3
U.S. (Pottinger)	5	4
Scotland (Muirhead)	4	4
Denmark (Nielsen)	4	4
Russia (A.Sidorova)	3	5
Germany (A.Schopp)	3	5
Czech Republic (Klimova)	2	6
Italy (Gaspari)	2	6
China (B.Wang)	2	7

ROUND ROBIN
Yesterday's results
Draw 12
Canada 7 South Korea 5
Sweden 7 China 5
Switzerland 8 Italy 4
U.S. 6 Czech Republic 4
Draw 13
Canada 5 Germany 4
Denmark 7 Switzerland 4
Scotland 9 China 7
U.S. 7 Russia 2
Draw 14
Denmark vs. Italy; Germany vs. South Korea; Scotland vs. Sweden; Russia vs. Czech Republic.

MLB

SPRING TRAINING

Yesterday's results
Minnesota 7,Detroit 3
St. Louis 2 N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh 6 Boston 5
Toronto 6 Baltimore 3
Atlanta 3 Washington 2 (10 inn.)
N.Y. Yankees 5 Tampa Bay 2
Chicago White Sox 13 Seattle 8
San Francisco 5 Cleveland 3
San Diego 3 L.A. Dodgers 0
Kansas City 8 Oakland 3
Arizona 0 Milwaukee 0

BLUE JAYS 6, ORIOLES 3

Toronto	ab	r	h	bi	Baltimore	ab	r	h	bi
R.Davis cf	3	0	0	0	En.Chavez rf	2	2	2	0
Gose cf	1	1	0	0	R.Flaherty 1b	2	0	0	0
Vizquel ss	3	0	2	0	Hardy ss	3	0	2	0
Valbuena ss	2	0	0	0	Tolleson pr-ss	1	0	0	0
Arencibia c	3	1	1	1	Betemit 1b	1	0	0	1
Bocock 3b	2	0	1	2	S.Beerer rf	1	0	0	0
Lind 1b	3	0	0	0	Ad.Jones cf	3	1	2	2
Woodward pr-1b	1	0	0	0	Antonelli 2b	1	0	0	0
B.Francisco rf	4	0	0	0	Wieters c	3	0	0	0
Snider lf	2	1	1	0	R.Paulino c	1	0	0	0
R.Nanita lf	1	1	1	0	Mar.Reynolds 3b	3	0	0	0
Y.Gomes 3b-c	4	1	2	1	B.Britton 3b	1	0	1	0
Cooper dh	2	1	0	0	Reimould lf	3	0	1	0
McCoy 2b	3	0	0	0	G.Davis lf	1	0	0	0
J.Diaz 2b	0	0	0	1	C.Davis dh	3	0	0	0
Hester ph-dh	1	0	0	0					
Andino 2b	3	0	0	0					
J.Ruettiger cf	1	0	1	0					
Totals	**34**	**6**	**8**	**5**	**Totals**		**34**	**3**	**9**	**3**

Toronto	**011**	**000**	**004**	**6**
Baltimore	**101**	**001**	**000**	**3**

E—Strop (1). DP—Toronto 1, Baltimore 1. LOB—Toronto 7, Baltimore 7. 2B—Vizquel (2), Snider (5), Y.Gomes (4), Reimold (2). HR—Arencibia (4), Ad.Jones (2). SB—Gose 2 (3), Ad.Jones (1). SF—J.Diaz, Betemit.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Toronto						
Drabek	3 1-3	3	2	2	2	3
L.Perez	1 2-3	2	0	0	0	0
Cordero	1	2	1	1	0	1
Janssen	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hoey W,1-0	1	0	0	0	0	0
R.Uviedo S,1-1	1	2	0	0	0	3
Baltimore						
Tom.Hunter	5	5	2	2	2	2
Ayala	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lindstrom	1	0	0	0	0	1
Patton	1	0	0	0	1	0
Strop L,0-1 BS,1-2	1-3	2	4	1	1	0
S.Pomeranz	2-3	1	0	0	0	0

HBP—by Patton (Lind). WP—Strop.
T—2:48. A—6,243 (7,500).

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Philadelphia	10	6	4	.600	115	125	—
Rochester	10	5	5	.500	126	120	1
Buffalo	10	4	6	.400	127	129	2
Toronto	10	4	6	.400	118	129	2

WEST DIVISION

Colorado	10	8	2	.800	130	119	—
Calgary	10	7	3	.700	135	109	1
Minnesota	9	5	4	.556	113	105	2½
Washington	10	3	7	.300	101	121	5
Edmonton	9	2	7	.222	98	106	5½

Tomorrow's game
Philadelphia at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Toronto at Rochester, 7:30 p.m.
Buffalo at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Washington at Edmonton, 9 p.m.

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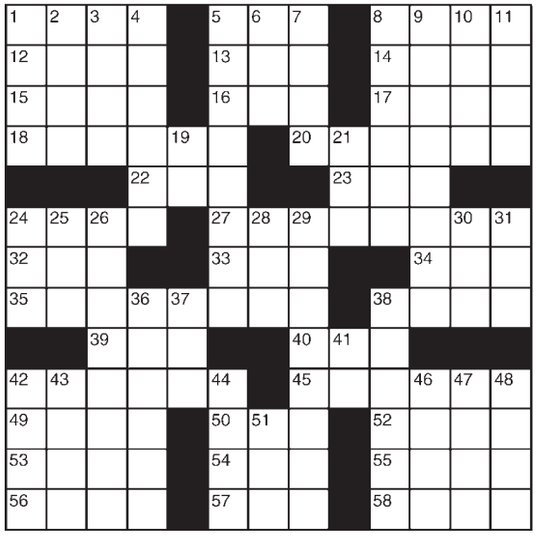
Crossword



Across

1 Sleeping
5 "Avatar" technology (Abbr.)
8 Reverberate
12 Georgia city
13 Young fellow
14 Thick chunk
15 Poetic foot
16 Work with
17 Remedy
18 Wood nymphs
20 Meager
22 Deterioration
23 Annoy
24 Harbor structure
27 "The Defiant Ones" duo
32 Web address
33 Prot. or Cath.
34 Genetic letters
35 Breach in a levee
38 "Hey, you!"
39 Have a bug
40 Way back when
42 "Lord Jim" author
45 Soft fabric
49 Neighborhood
50 Haven't paid yet
52 Early primary state
53 Dave of "Mad" magazine
54 Rowing need
55 Dance lesson
56 Not good, not bad
57 "— Doubtfire"
58 Dame Myra at the piano

Down

1 Desertlike
2 Wild hog
3 TV trophy
4 Come ashore
5 Groups of grapes
6 Petrol
7 Mid-month date
8 Steep slope
9 Some old cars
10 Rodgers collaborator
11 Follow instructions
19 "— as I say ..."
21 Spy novel org.
24 French nobleman
25 Hockey great Bobby
26 Laundromat alternative
28 French possessive
29 Butchers' tools
30 Type measures
31 Perched
36 Shrew
37 — carte
38 Shine
41 "We Bring Good Things to Life" co.
42 Urban fleet
43 Sandwich cookie
44 Armageddon
46 November responsibility
47 Rams fans?
48 Spigots
51 Doves' aversion

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer

P	A	R	T	■	L	A	B	■	M	E	S	A
A	S	E	A	■	E	G	O	■	I	V	A	N
S	A	N	C	T	I	O	N	■	L	I	L	T
S	P	O	K	E	■	■	D	A	N	C	E	S
■	■	■	L	A	C	E	■	G	E	T	■	■
A	N	T	E	■	A	L	O	E	■	I	D	O
C	U	R	■	K	N	E	A	D	■	O	U	R
E	T	A	■	I	T	C	H	■	K	N	E	E
■	■	C	A	W	■	T	U	N	E	■	■	■
L	A	T	V	I	A	■	■	B	A	L	S	A
A	R	I	A	■	J	U	N	C	T	I	O	N
P	E	O	N	■	A	R	E	■	O	M	A	N
P	A	N	T	■	X	I	V	■	N	O	P	E

Sudoku

3				4				8
	7			8			9	
9			5		6			3
2		7				1		5
		5	2		7	3		
4		1				9		2
7			6		4			9
	2			5			3	
8				3				6

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

1	6	3	4	7	9	8	5	2
4	5	8	3	2	6	1	9	7
2	7	9	5	1	8	6	3	4
7	1	4	2	6	3	9	8	5
6	9	2	8	5	7	3	4	1
8	3	5	1	9	4	7	2	6
3	2	7	6	8	5	4	1	9
9	8	1	7	4	2	5	6	3
5	4	6	9	3	1	2	7	8

Send a kiss

- **Baby.** I love you with all my heart. From the beginning of art class listening to Guns and Roses to four years later in the beginging of our adult lives. I can never imagine my life with out you. Im sorry for the few months of distance I shown you, but know I know more than ever I love you. Just as we always said Forever and Always. I Love You Baby From Doll Face :)
- **Barb.** Since you have come into my life I have been so happy. You have given me so much joy. Time spent with you is never boring, we laugh and carry on, we enjoy the same things, thank you for rescuing me. I hope to spend the rest of my days with you. From the blues man
- **Fever.** Are you saying i've got a fever for you, you are not nice to me? or that's really you have a fever? I do not know. from me?
- **My Miss.** Im so happy my dove didnt fly away till tommorrow I love you<3 From <3
- **Everyone.** So many love stories, so many parallel stories. Makes me wonder. From Goodluck

Weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAX: 9° MIN: -3°	MAX: 2° MIN: -6°	MAX: 1° MIN: -9°

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

ANDREW SCHULTZ
WEATHER SPECIALIST
"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta".
WEEKDAYS 5:30 AM

Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. This is a special time for you and today's new moon will make it more special still.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Today you will be asking yourself why you said certain things or made certain decisions. Even if you won't find the answer, it's OK as long as you're thinking.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. This is an important day for your ideas and your beliefs and the way that you interact with the world.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. Today's new moon will give your personality added confidence and fizz. You are sure to make some kind of breakthrough.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Not everyone will approve of what you are planning to do but that just makes it even more attractive.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. Today's new moon will inspire you to start something new but the only way you'll find time for it is if you let go of something old.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Even if you make it clear that you are not remotely interested in someone else's opinions they will still make sure you hear all about it.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. It is of the utmost importance that you take time out of your busy schedule to reassure loved ones.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Very soon you'll have to knuckle down to some work, but for now it's all about fun.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Make sure loved ones know what you think and how you feel. Make sure you know their views.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Travel and social plans may be disrupted today but that's okay because you will gain more than you lose. Take it as it comes.

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. This is the ideal time to confront certain feelings that you have been trying hard to deny.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"I don't think the anti-aging cream is working!"
Nancy

CHARLES DHARAPAK/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Win!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Wednesday's Metro.

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